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Relating pg 10

Ring swap ban a U.S. shame

Howling U.S. debate over Canuck wolves

WILDLIFE Canadian wolves transferred to the United States in a repopulation experiment 13 years ago now have American lawyers howling.

The wolves originally from Alberta have returned as a top predator to the American wilderness from which they'd been hunted out.

But they've done so well they're now at the centre of two lawsuits.

One claims that they are still an endangered species and the other wants to declare open season on them.

However, U.S. Fish and Wildlife officials say they want Canadians to know that the wolves have prospered in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming.

The original 66 animals now number nearly 2,000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sunny Side

Follow Metro's SunnySide initiative as we help you find the good news around Toronto and Canada. This is also a Call to Action for you to send us your suggestions at torontoletters@metronews.ca, metronews.ca or on Twitter @metrotoronto.

- On metronews.ca
- **Calling on all Torontonians — share your SunnySide thoughts on what makes Toronto tick: People, places, events and architecture on Twitter using #sunnyside**
- **See what other Metro readers are doing and saying about SunnySide**
- Today
- **Celebrating Big Brothers Big Sisters, pg 5**
- **A Harris-Decima poll found consumer confidence highest in 15 months, pg 14**

Pop star Now that's consumer confidence

SUBMITTED

Singer Avril Lavigne, who grew up in Napanee, had a successful shopping trip in Toronto yesterday. She also threw the opening pitch for the Jays at the Roger's Centre last night.

'Appalling' website to stay online

The Ontario government does not plan to pull down a school-finder website that at least one Toronto educator calls "an appalling way for families to shop for schools that have 'people like us'."

Doug Jolliffe, head of the Toronto high school teachers' union, said yesterday he is discouraged the province does not intend to scrap its controversial "school information finder" website that posts a demographic snapshot of each school.

"If parents are actually picking a school on that basis, it becomes an exercise in self-streaming and you lose the mix we want in public education" said Jolliffe.

The Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation is one of 21 groups representing principals, teachers, school board officials and parents who called yesterday on the McGuinty government to take down the website until it consults with educators about what information should be included.

Public profile

- The profile includes the percentage of students from low-income families, the portion whose parents went to university, the percentage whose first language is not English, the percentage who qualify for special education help and the number who came recently from non-English speaking countries.

Education Minister Kathleen Wynne said she is sending out invitations "shortly" to a special roundtable discussion on the sensitive new website, but does not plan to take it down — in part because it is heavily used.

While Trustee John Campbell, chair of the Toronto District School Board, agrees the website includes information already available to the public, he said the background of students says little about how good a school is.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

New strategies help kids ace provincial tests

EDUCATION From story-planning "tea parties" to new hi-tech "wikis" — websites kids work on together — Peel public schools use an array of tactics to help students who fail the Grade 6 reading test.

"We teach students to organize their thoughts before they write using wikis to comment on each other's outlines, and 'tea party' get-togethers where they move around the classroom presenting ideas to each other for feedback," said Jim Grieve, director of education for the Peel district School Board.

School libraries now stock more non-fiction and graphic novels, he said, and borrowing has gone way up.

These are the sorts of tactics that may help explain how two-thirds of Ontario students who scored below provincial reading standards four years ago in Grade 6, went on to pass the Grade 10 literacy test this year, in test results released yesterday.

"We teach students to organize their thoughts before they write using wikis ... and 'tea party' get-togethers."
Jim Grieve, director of education

"We'd still like to see more attention focussed on the one-third who weren't successful, but many teachers are able to provide the assistance students need to improve between Grade 6 and 10," said Michael Kozlow, director of data for the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), which runs the province-wide tests each year.

Overall, 85 per cent of the more than 142,000 English-speaking students who tried the test April 2 for the first time passed.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sunny Side

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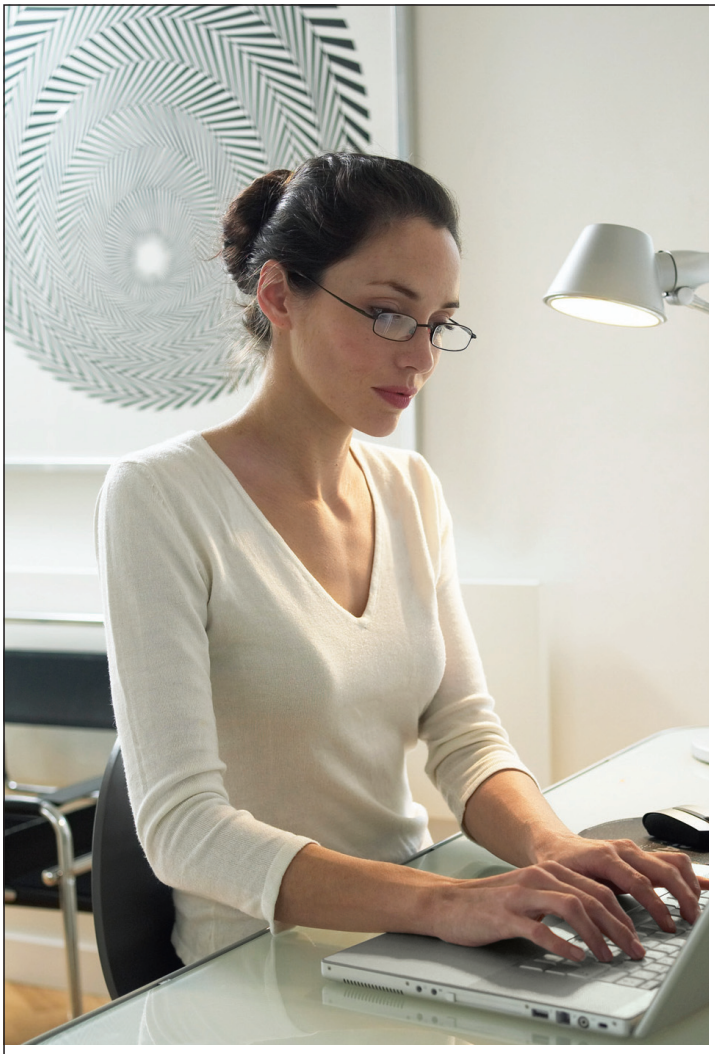

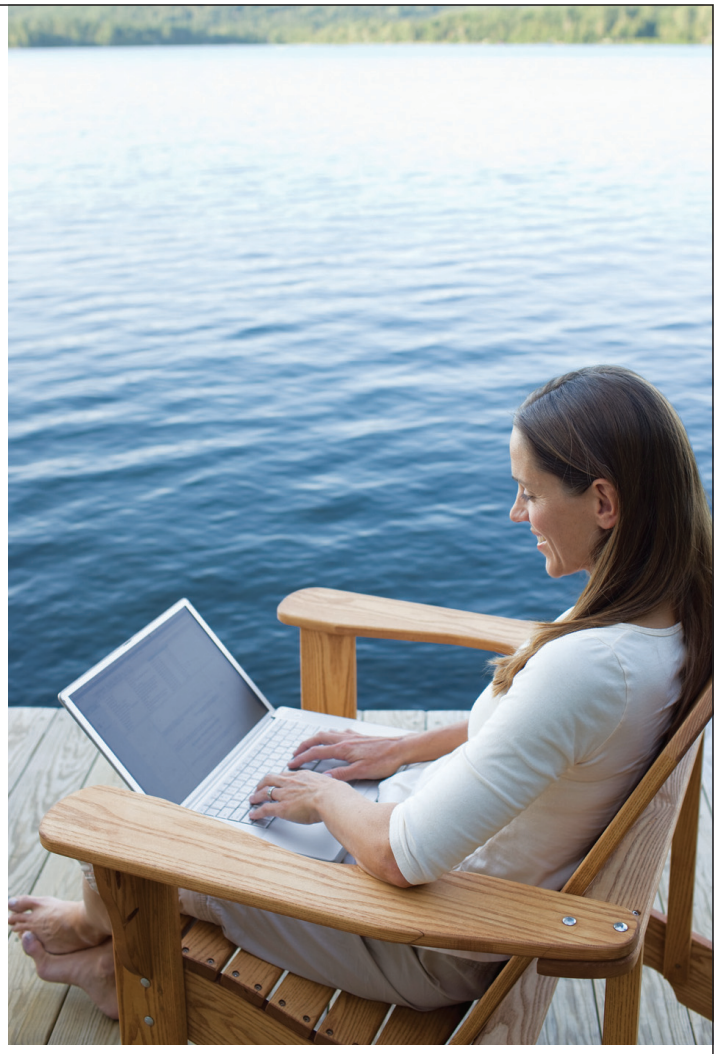

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Elderly Brampton man hit by car
An 82-year-old Brampton man hit by a car crossing Bovaird Drive Monday afternoon was clinging to life yesterday. The man was struck by a Chevrolet Cavalier around 2:15 p.m. The driver remained at the scene and is co-operating with investigators. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Atwood receiving honorary doctorate

The Ontario College of Art & Design will present honorary doctorate degrees today to author Margaret Atwood, left, artist Charles Pachter and collector and educator Father Dan Donovan, the university announced yesterday. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Tomorrow's Metro

Music

Alan Cross is back sharing his encyclopedic music knowledge in Sound Check.

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video A rookie cabinet minister gets Parliamentary grilling over forgotten documents at **metronews.ca/canada**

Video General Motors; road to recovery begins with rebranding strategy for the company at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

Lotto 6/49: 5, 6, 14, 30, 38 and 39. Bonus 34
Ontario 49: 5, 8, 10, 26, 27 and 30. Bonus 15
Ontario Pick 3: 3 0 8; **Ontario Pick 4:** 7 6 6 0
Encore: 0710595
Daily Keno: 2, 5, 14, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 35, 40, 41, 43, 44, 46, 50, 52, 60 and 61
These results are not official.

ShareYourViews

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TTC steps up pass security

Frauds reached $2M last year

In an effort to fight fraud, the TTC is adding new credit-card style security features to the 260,000 Metropasses it sells each month.

Starting in July, all TTC passes will feature a hologram to help TTC drivers and collectors visually distinguish genuine passes from fakes.

Passes sold by the TTC's 1,500 fare vendors also will come with a yellow sticker that must be removed before use. The stickers, which cannot be reapplied, are designed to stem the practice of "fare renting," whereby some agents try to return used passes to the TTC for reimbursement. The new security features will cost the system about $250,000 annually, but are expected to help prevent about $2 million in fraud-related losses each year.

TTC chair Adam Giambrone

40 The TTC collects about 40 per cent of its fare revenue through passes. Police have already seized about 2,500 fake passes this year.

Counterfeit tokens are estimated to cost the TTC between $1 million and $1.5 million annually and TTC chair Adam Giambrone said the TTC is looking at more token receptors like those used on the subway on its surface vehicles. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NDP join Tories in calling for Caplan's firing over eHealth

POLITICS Ontario's opposition parties said yesterday they didn't know why the Liberal government was still defending officials at a provincial agency that awarded $5 million in untendered contracts to "friends" in the consulting business.

The Conservatives and New Democrats accused eHealth chairman Alan Hudson and CEO Sarah Kramer of giving "Liberal-friendly" firms lucrative contracts without taking competitive bids.

The New Democrats have now joined the Conservatives in demanding Health Minister David Caplan resign over his handling of eHealth Ontario.

The Liberals and Premier Dalton McGuinty have said they will wait for an auditor general's report before acting. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A black bear hangs out yesterday in a tree in downtown Aurora. Animal officials eventually tranquilized the animal and will relocate him way from the community.

Aurora Bearialis lights up city

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Spectators curious for a look at the bear gather to take photos.

ANIMALS Some are calling him Wellington the Bear.

Punsters have nicknamed him Aurora Bearialis. But folks in Aurora yesterday were abuzz over the young black bear that took up residence in a tall willow tree.

"I just didn't want anybody to hurt him," said one bashful youngster who watched the mini-drama unfold in downtown Aurora.

In the end, Warren May, a biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources, jabbed the bear with a tranquilizer syringe at the end of a long pole, eventually putting the young animal to sleep.

He explained that young bears "tend to move around" and this one may well have been in Newmarket a day earlier "and moved his way down here."

Officials said the bear would be released into the wild north of Barrie after biologists are satisfied he's healthy and undamaged. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

JUDGE An Ontario Superior Court judge who resigned before he could dismissed for misconduct has been awarded an annual pension of more than $178,000. The Canadian Judicial Council recommended that Paul Cosgrove be removed from the bench, based on his "pervasive" misconduct at a 1999 murder trial.

JUDGE Home-care workers in Ontario have voted to ratify an agreement with the Red Cross. The three-year agreement, reached at the end of April, ended rotating strikes that were held across the province since March 20. Sixty-six per cent of the workers voted for the deal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Teen stabbed on school grounds
A 16-year-old boy suffered a stab wound in an Etobicoke schoolyard yesterday and is listed in serious condition at hospital. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Soldiers sick of image

Retirees say too much emphasis on superficial

Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen who have retired are complaining that that the dirty work of war is losing ground to a force obsessed with image, political correctness and the kind of inclusiveness one might expect to find in the most corporate of corporations.

A sampling of the questionnaires that are completed by all retiring members of the military were obtained by Torstar under the Access to Information Act. Retirees were asked why they decided to leave the military and then were presented with a number of statements about the Canadian Forces with which they could agree or disagree.

85 At CFB Esquimalt 85 per cent of retirees agreed that military leaders are putting "too much emphasis on superficial image," and not enough on training.

A broad term the defence community calls "civilianization" — the creeping influence of bureaucrats who've never fired a weapon or felt the blast of a roadside bomb — was listed as a main reason for influencing their reason to leave the Canadian Forces. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

OSPCA suspends Humane Society's membership

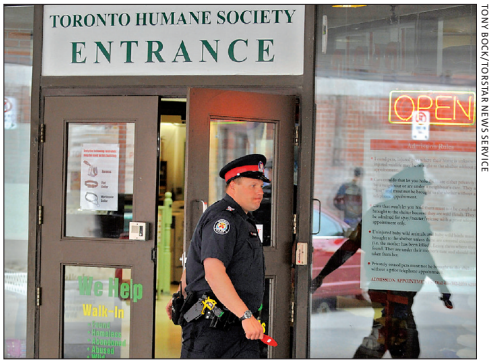
SEARCH The Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said yesterday that it has suspended the Toronto Humane Society as a member after investigators searched one of its shelters and found four cats in "serious" condition.

A statement from the OSPCA said investigators discovered animals in distress and immediate intervention was required due to "potential loss of life."

But the Toronto Humane Society said it felt vindicated by the "surprise inspection," given that the vast majority of the 1,100 animals examined were fine and none were found to be suffering or in need of being euthanized.

Investigators were at the shelter Tuesday as part of a probe into allegations of inappropriate conduct at the shelter, which was prompted by a series of newspaper articles in which some people alleged animals were suffering because of a restrictive euthanasia policy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



TONY BOCK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Toronto Humane Society had its member status suspended yesterday after an OSPCA investigation.

be there for every step

JESSICA:
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The Toronto Central Community Care Access Centre is governed by the requirements of the French Language Services Act. We provide services in French and encourage applications from French-speaking candidates.

Ontario

Charges laid in roadside shooting

An Uxbridge Township man has been charged with the attempted murder of a 22-year-old Whitby man found shot on the side of Concession Rd. 5 in April. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

local 5

Celebrating Big

ROBYN YOUNG
for Metro Toronto

SUBMITTED

Glenn Trotman, centre, has been a big brother to Kevin and Kenny for the past seven years. He is one of six "Bigs" to be recognized at tonight's Big Night Out gala event fundraiser for Big Brothers and Big Sisters Toronto.

Signing up to be a big brother was one of the best decisions Glenn Trotman ever made.

It was something he'd always wanted to do and seven years ago, when he turned 30, he became a big brother to two young boys who had lost their father.

"I think you may even gain more from the experience than the little people do," he said about how the boys have touched his life.

Having never had children of his own, Trotman said the two or three times a month he sees the boys have always been the best part of his month.

Trotman met Kevin and Kenny when they were five and six years old. Their father had passed away and their mother was looking for a male role model to fill that void.

Over the years, Trotman says they've done everything together and now, as Kevin prepares to head off to university, Trotman says it will be a shift in their relationship. But he knows they'll keep in touch.

"They're family now, quite honestly," he said.

Trotman, Kevin and Kenny are one of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Toronto matches to be celebrated tonight at the organization's annual Big Night Out gala event.

Sunny Side

Trotman is one of six "Bigs" who will be recognized for making a difference in the lives of his "Littles."

The 39th annual event is a fundraiser in support of Big Brothers and Big Sisters Toronto and celebrates those who volunteer their time to help children and youth at risk.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters Toronto has 1,525 volunteers and 1,452 children matched with big brothers or big sisters.

But even with the number of volunteers, the organization still has a list of close to 400 children waiting to be matched.

The goal for 2009 is to shorten the wait time for "Littles" to be matched and to increase the number of children served.

The Big Night Out will be held at the Liberty Grand, 25 British Columbia Rd.

Colin Mochrie of Whose Line is it Anyway and his wife Deb McGrath of CBC's Little Mosque on the Prairie will host the event.

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Quebec police crack down on drug operations

Police arrested 46 people in a crackdown against drug operations linked to the Hells Angels and the trade in contraband tobacco. A combined force of Montreal police, Quebec provincial police, RCMP and Kahnawake Mohawk Peacekeepers fanned out yesterday armed with arrest warrants. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

March against native poverty

Native people will mark the one-year anniversary of Ottawa's historic apology for racist abuse by marching against poverty. Phil Fontaine, left, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, is calling on Canadians to join a national day of reconciliation on June 11. Fontaine is calling for peaceful marches across the country and on Parliament Hill — not protests or blockades. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raitt spared despite lost file

Minister's resignation rejected by PM, aide quits instead

Rookie cabinet minister and rising star Lisa Raitt will keep her job despite a political uproar over a security breach involving secret government documents.

The natural resources minister said yesterday she offered to resign after CTV News revealed that a binder of documents on Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. was left at its Ottawa bureau for nearly a week.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper refused to let her step down, but did accept the resignation of her assistant, Jasmine MacDonnell, who took responsibility for the gaffe.

It's Raitt's first big stumble since Harper brought her into his cabinet last fall. Her handling of the Chalk River nuclear reactor shutdown has — until now — gone off without any major hitches.

Opposition MPs immediately accused the government of sacrificing the aide to save one of its brightest performers.

They questioned why Harper wouldn't accept Raitt's resignation, noting that Maxime Bernier resigned as foreign affairs minister last year after it was revealed that he left sensitive government documents at his ex-girlfriend's home.

Natural Resources Minister Lisa Raitt

When he accepted Bernier's resignation, Harper said it's up to cabinet ministers to protect sensitive documents.

Yesterday, Harper told reporters in Quebec City the difference between Bernier and Raitt was the circumstances in which the papers were misplaced.

He said Raitt was working at the time and could reasonably expect her staff would be responsible for her documents.

"In the case of Minister Bernier, his actions were much more personal in nature and that was the difference in the responsibility," Harper said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JAKE WRIGHT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Karlheinz Schreiber arrives at the Oliphant commission in Ottawa in April. Inquiry judge Jeffrey Oliphant is asking the Tories not to extradite Schreiber until the end of hearings.

Judge urges delay of Schreiber's extradition

INQUIRY It would be a travesty of justice for the Conservative government to boot Karlheinz Schreiber out of Canada before the end of public hearings on his financial dealings with former prime minister Brian Mulroney, says the head of the inquiry.

Justice Jeffrey Oliphant, in a ruling yesterday, acknowledged he has no legal power to stave off Schreiber's extradition to Germany, where he's wanted on charges of fraud, bribery, corruption and tax evasion.

But the judge strongly urged Justice Minister Rob Nicholson to hold off on any removal order, at least until the end of hearings on June 22 or 23.

The recommendation came as Schreiber's lawyers announced they had also filed a separate action in Ontario Court of Appeal raising new legal arguments against extradition.

No date has been set for a hearing in that case, but if the court agrees to deal with the matter it could mean a further delay in deciding Schreiber's fate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

ALBERTA Two 14-year-old Alberta boys charged in a double murder were in the care of the province and missing from a group home at the time of the slayings. They were charged after the bodies of a man and a woman were discovered east of Edmonton Monday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economists predicting job carnage in new data

WORK New employment data coming out tomorrow are expected to show thousands of Canadian jobs were lost last month as the North American auto sector continued a massive restructuring.

The consensus forecast of economists projects 36,500 jobs disappeared last month.

That would wipe out the 36,000 jobs that were added in April, to the surprise of most observers.

But economists say April's employment growth was more illusion than real, as laid-off Canadians were forced to become self-employed. That is unlikely to occur again, they say.

The restructuring of the auto sector is likely to further cut into manufacturing jobs in Canada, and particularly in Ontario.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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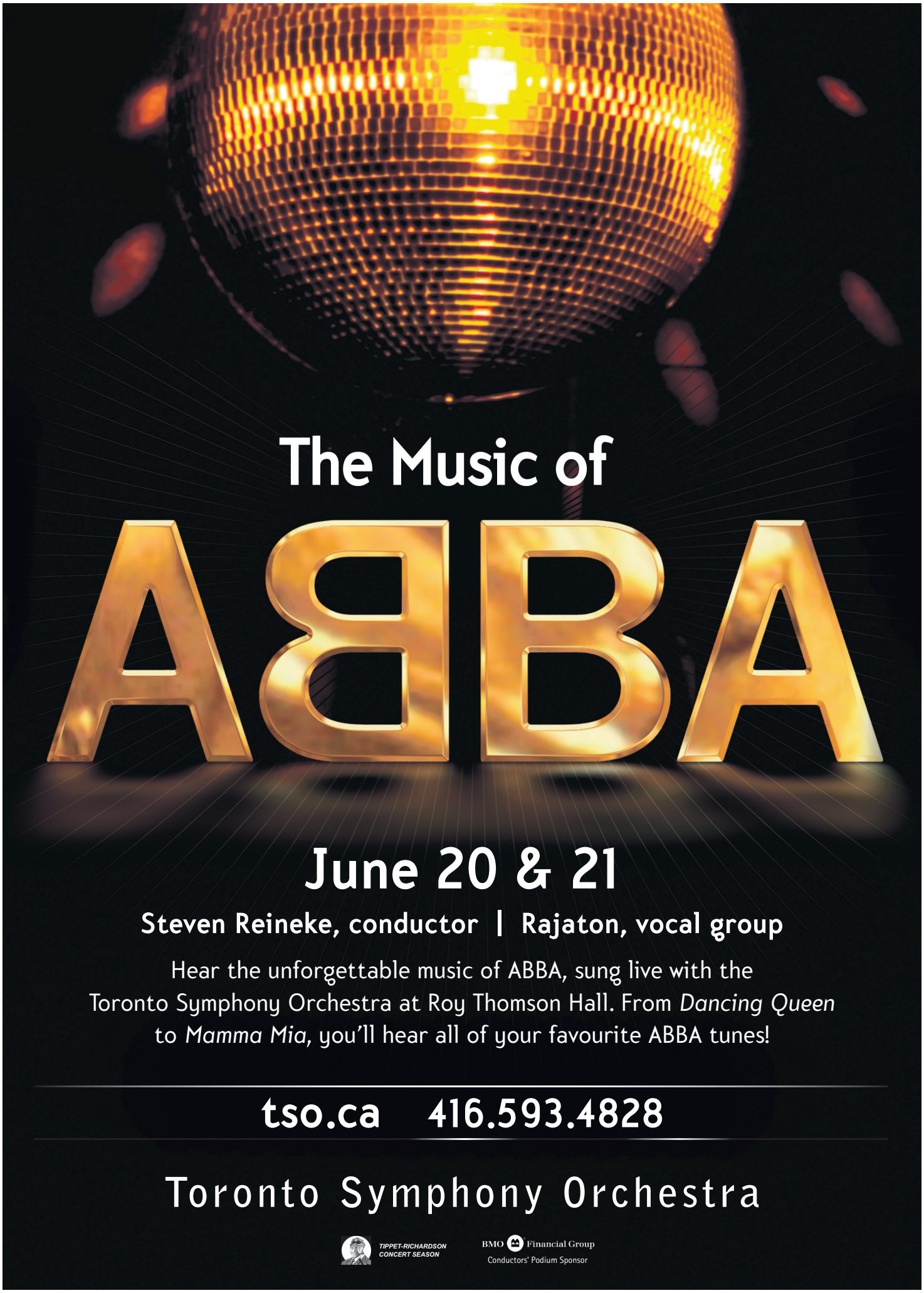
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Blaze damages Windsor-area marina
A large fire at a marina in La Salle, Ont., near Windsor, has caused at least $2 million in damage. A blaze erupted at about 6 p.m. yesterday at Boat Doctor's River Run Marina. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cost of going green threatens to sink rinks

Pushed to the fiscal brink by rising electricity costs and the price of a new roof, a small Quebec village mulled whether to shutter a local temple — the indoor hockey rink.

The town of Chute-aux-Outardes reluctantly boarded up the Valere-Bouchard Arena last year.

The weight that tipped the balance? Modifications required by an international treaty to slash greenhouse gas emissions.

Hundreds of communities across Canada are facing a similar financial obstacle — finding funds to overhaul arena refrigeration systems to meet requirements of the Montreal Protocol.

In the agreement, Canada pledged to phase out hydrofluorocarbons (HCFCs), used in refrigeration equipment and air conditioners, over the next 11 years.

HCFC-22 is commonly used in ice rinks from coast to coast.

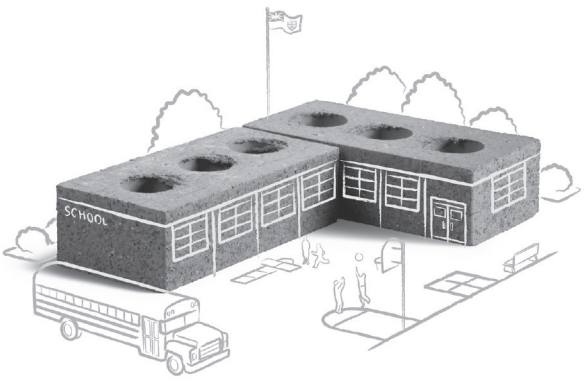
The costs of making the switch from HCFC-22 to a low-emission alternative, such as ammonia, can add as much as $500,000 to system replacement costs.

For towns like Chute-aux-Outardes, the inflated bill can push operating budgets way over the edge.

"It was a heart-rending choice because (the arena) was an emblem, it was the jewel of the community," said town recreation director Manon Finn.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

75
Percentage of Quebec's 450 arenas currently run on HCFC-22, compared to 30 per cent for the rest of the country.



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Pain forecast for makers of auto parts

GM The integration of the North American auto industry means Canadian parts makers will undoubtedly suffer as General Motors restructures, but suppliers say those companies that survive the short term will see plenty of growth opportunities down the road.

Canadian auto parts companies have seen production volume fall by approximately 40 per cent in the last year and have responded with plant shutdowns, layoffs and, in some cases, liquidation.

Despite early signs that vehicle sales are starting to improve, GM's announcement Monday that it will close another 14 U.S. plants by 2012, combined with an earlier announcement that it will idle 13 plants for nine weeks this summer and Chrysler's decision to shut down all its plants as it restructures, means the situation for suppliers will get worse before it gets better.

Scotiabank economist and auto industry analyst Carlos Gomes said the number of Canadian supplier jobs declined from a high of 100,000 to about 75,000 in 2008 and will shrink by another 15,000 before GM and Chrysler finish restructuring and sales rebound. THE CANADIAN PRESS

No jail time for Corbeil: Lawyer

PLEA The lawyer for former Quebec federal Liberal organizer Benoit Corbeil says he will argue to keep his client out of jail after Corbeil pleaded guilty to one count each of fraud and influence peddling stemming from his political activities.

Benoit Corbeil

Lawyer Michel Grenier insisted yesterday that Corbeil never saw a penny of the money and Corbeil's crime didn't warrant time behind bars. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories contribute $12M to optics institute
Prime Minister Stephen Harper said yesterday in Quebec City that his Conservative government is contributing $12 million to a national optics institute. The Institut national d'optique will use the money for research and development. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadians recall Tiananmen images

The iconic image of the young man staring down a line of tanks in Tiananmen Square doesn't represent the only hero of China's repressed pro-democracy movement for Shelley Fines.

The Regina native recalls dozens of champions — some dressed in schoolgirl skirts and shoes — sprawled protectively across a Beijing tank route in the middle of the night, the scene lit by a single light bulb jerry-rigged on a nearby guardhouse.

"It was almost surreal — thick and heavy and you could hear the crickets," Fines said yesterday at a Parliament Hill news conference.

"I could see the soldier was so young and so innocent. He didn't know what he's doing."
Sheng Xue, who now lives in Mississauga

Today marks the 20th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre, a bloodbath the country's Communist government still barely acknowledges, but that survivors are determined to keep alive in the public conscience.

Sheng Xue recalls standing across the street from the square's southeast corner on the morning of June 4, 1989, when troops suddenly opened fire.

Two people beside her were shot, and the entire group flopped to its bellies. "It was just a street," Sheng, who now lives in Mississauga, said of the space separating the shooters from the protesters.

"I could see the soldier was so young and so innocent. He didn't know what he's doing."

If there was a theme to yesterday's testimonials, it was that the Chinese uprising of 1989 represented much more than a collection of young firebrands being oppressed by an opaque government. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 13

Employment insurance not a worthy election issue: Poll

SURVEY Employment insurance has raised the temperature in the House of Commons in recent weeks, but a new poll suggests people don't think it's an issue worth an election.

The Liberals are pushing for a shorter qualifying period for EI and have mused about toppling the government if it won't act.

However, the Canadian Press Harris-Decima survey suggests they should be cautious about taking that route.

The survey indicates 53 per cent of respondents favour some expansion of the system — a longer benefit period, higher payouts or shorter qualifying times.

360
The last Conservative budget added five weeks of EI benefits, but the Liberals are arguing the qualifying time should be cut to 360 hours of work in the previous year. Now, the qualification period ranges from 420 hours to 700 hours, depending on the region of the country.

Only 29 per cent said they were satisfied with the status quo.

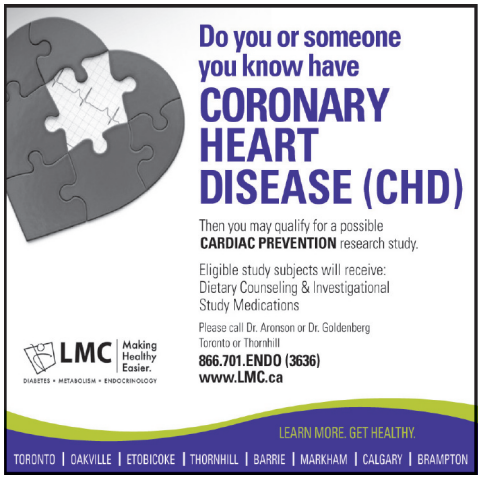
Asked to choose the best among the three expansion options, 52 per cent picked a longer benefit period.

Despite the overall poll support for improvements, only one in four respondents said the issue justifies bringing down the government and forcing an election. More than two-thirds were against the idea. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

OBIT Sam George was remembered yesterday as an ordinary man who fought an extraordinary battle in forcing a public inquiry into the fatal police shooting of his aboriginal activist brother, Dudley George, at Ipperwash Provincial Park. George, who had been battling lung and pancreatic cancer, died at his home on the Kettle and Stony Point First Nation. He was 56.

GANGS Halifax Mayor Peter Kelly says his focus will be on developing a national strategy to deal with guns, gangs and violence while he's at this year's Big City Mayors' Caucus in Whistler, B.C. Kelly says problems with gangs and gun-related crime are not unique to Halifax and it's time Ottawa acted. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Comment

Same-sex union ban a shame on U.S.

Frustration has been rainbow-coloured since the California Supreme Court ruled on Prop 8, upholding the ban of same-sex marriage in the Golden State.

The announcement, made last Tuesday, means the roughly 18,000 couples who married in the short window they were legally able — from mid-June to early November 2008 — will not be affected. Other same-sex couples who want to swap rings from here on out, however, are SOL.

It's a little disheartening that in an era of change and renewed optimism such prejudice is still legally enforced, no?

Here in Canada, same-sex marriage was legalized province-by-province since 2003, until it was recognized nationwide two years later. It is currently legal in six other countries and is expected to be legal in six U.S. states by the end of the year.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, cyborg assassin from the future and a longtime Republican who upheld the court's decision, conceded that one day "either the people or courts will recognize gay marriage." Even former U.S. vice-president Dick Cheney, another killer automaton, voiced his support.

On the web

- For more views on relating, go to Love Bytes at metronews.ca/blogs

"I think that freedom means freedom for everyone," Cheney said at the National Press Club earlier this week, echoing statements he made in 2004. "I think people ought to be free to enter into any kind of union they wish, any kind of arrangement they wish."

Some opponents say it hinders procreation and tarnishes the sanctity of marriage, but people in "traditional" marriages aren't required to have kids and us straight folks have been ruining the sanctity of marriage for as long as marriages have existed.

Some states offer domestic partnerships and civil unions — a major step in the right direction — but stopping there is akin to the "separate but equal" doctrine under the Jim Crow laws of the late 1800s and early 1900s that had blacks drinking from separate water fountains than whites.

Slavery was legal in the U.S. just 150 years ago, some women couldn't vote just 100 years ago and the reality of a black president seemed far away just two years ago. It is my belief that we will one day look back on the banning of same-sex marriage — perhaps the last legally-enforced prejudice in North America — with the same humility and quiet shame.

Andrea Woo is a Vancouver-based news and entertainment reporter.

Views

What governments should be doing

Bailout **Series**

(Editor's note: This is the final part of Charles Davies' series on financial bailouts.)

What is government's proper role in the economy?

To take a spin through Economics 101, government is there to define the ground rules of commerce through laws and regulations. It regulates economic activity by using fiscal policy (taxing and spending) and monetary policy (interest rates and other credit controls). It also monitors and regulates Canadian international business interests by making and enforcing trade agreements.

Government rightly provides a social safety net in the form of employment insurance, public pensions and other supplements based on age and/or circumstances. In a recession, government is obliged to use its resources — our tax dollars — to help out.

It's best prepared to do this by running budget surpluses in good times, building up a reserve that can be used in hard times when it may be necessary to run a deficit. Mostly, this doesn't happen because governments tend to make economic decisions for political reasons.

One way the Harper Conservatives managed to turn a surplus into a record $50-billion deficit in a blink of Jim Flaherty's eye was by cutting the GST before the recession to appeal to voters, forfeiting revenues that would be helpful now.

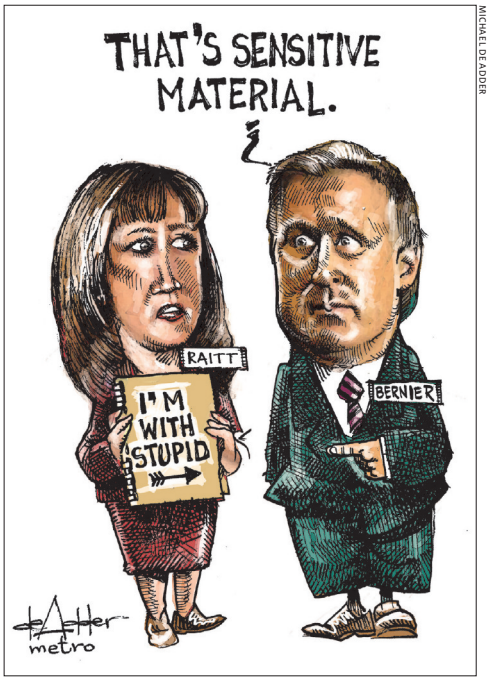
It's perfectly reasonable to spend tax dollars to provide assistance to individuals (in the form of extended benefits) and companies in general (tax measures) in a recession. Public works spending on infrastructure or research and development that benefits the economy in general is also useful.

It's also fitting that governments provide support to key industries so they can compete internationally on an equal footing with foreign companies that have equivalent support from their governments. The critical distinction here is that government should not be in the business of shielding uncompetitive and/or dying companies like GM or Chrysler from market realities.

Otherwise, government is there to be the honest broker or economic referee — providing clear, fair and consistently applied business regulation and enforcement, tax policies and broad-based incentives.

In short, its job is to level the playing field so everyone — companies as well as individuals — gets a fair shake.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer who has worked for Canadian and international news organizations.



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Austrian father imprisoned

An official says Josef Fritzl, right, has been moved to the prison where he will serve his life sentence for imprisoning and repeatedly raping his daughter for 24 years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

A first for India

India's parliament yesterday elected its first-ever female speaker, the daughter of a former deputy prime minister. Meira Kumar, left, was elected unopposed and immediately assumed her post. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California girl fights rare form of breast cancer

HEALTH A few months ago, 10-year-old Hannah Powell-Auslam had the usual worries for a kid. Today, she's dealing with her own survival.

"I feel like a kid inside, but sometimes I feel like an adult when I'm always at the hospital," she told ABC's Good Morning America in an interview that aired yesterday.

The fifth-grader from Los Angeles complained of itching in her side in April. Her mother discovered a lump, leading to a diagnosis of breast cancer — an extremely rare adult form.

Hannah had a mastectomy May 7 and has begun chemotherapy. The show filmed Hannah getting her head shaved rather than waiting for chemotherapy to take its toll.

"I might be just a little bit afraid. I love my hair. I worked so hard to grow it," Hannah said. Asked if she felt brave, Hannah nodded firmly. "Feel brave all the time," she said. "I'm a kid fighting an adult disease."

Several more rounds of chemotherapy are scheduled. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

ENVIRONMENT Climate change in the Middle East may trigger wars in the volatile region by increasing competition for scarce water and complicating peace agreements, according to a study by the Winnipeg-based International Institute for Sustainable Development. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama arrives in Middle East

U.S. President Barack Obama began his latest bid to open a dialogue with the Muslim world yesterday by seeking the counsel of King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, home to Islam's two holiest sites in Mecca and Medina.

"The United States and Saudi Arabia have a long history of friendship. We have a strategic relationship," Obama said as he visited the monarch's desert horse farm. In turn, Abdullah expressed his "best wishes to the friendly American people who are represented by a distinguished man who deserves to be in this position."

Saudi Arabia was a stopover en route to Cairo, where Obama is set to deliver a speech today that he's been promising since last year's election campaign — aiming to set a new tone in America's often-strained dealings with the world's 1.5 billion Muslims.

Many Muslims still smoulder over Iraq, Guantanamo Bay and unflinching U.S. support of Israel, but they are hoping the son of a Kenyan Muslim who lived part of his childhood in Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim country, can help chart a new course.

Aides cautioned that Obama was not out to break new policy ground in his Cairo speech. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GERALD HERBERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. President Barack Obama talks with Saudi King Abdullah yesterday at their bilateral meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Bin Laden tape

• Osama bin Laden threatened Americans in a new audio recording aired yesterday, saying U.S. President Barack Obama inflamed hatred toward the United States by ordering Pakistan to crack down on militants in Swat Valley and block Islamic law there. The message was broadcast on Al-Jazeera Television around the same time Obama touched down in Saudi Arabia. White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said al-Qaida is seeking to shift attention away from what he called the president's historic efforts to have an open dialogue with the Muslim world. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bin Laden

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Canadian on next shuttle flight

Canadian astronaut Julie Payette says she expects her pending trip aboard the space shuttle Endeavour to be an "action-packed flight." Payette and the rest of the six-member crew are preparing to blast off June 13 for the International Space Station. THE CANADIAN PRESS

British PM faces fight to keep job

BRITAIN Prime Minister Gordon Brown is fighting to save his job after four ministers quit in two days.

Gordon Brown

Public anger has been fuelled by revelations legislators expensed items from cookies to horse manure.

Analysts say about half of those in the House of Commons could be ousted in the next election.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chavez says U.S. plotted to kill him

VENEZUELA President Hugo Chavez has alleged U.S. intelligence agencies were behind a purported assassination plot that prevented him from visiting El Salvador to attend the inauguration of leftist President Mauricio Funes.

Chavez has repeatedly accused the U.S. of plotting to overthrow him, without offering proof.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rescuers closing in on Airbus wreckage

Military planes and ships struggled through high seas and heavy winds yesterday toward the bobbing wreckage of an Air France jet, while an investigator said the black boxes may never be found.

Causes

- France's defence minister and the U.S. Defence Department have said there were no signs that terrorism was involved in the crash.
- Thunderstorms, lightning or a combination of causes are possible theories.

Rescue boats from several countries were sailing toward the site to start the recovery as aviation experts tried to determine why the Airbus carrying 228 people from Rio de Janeiro to Paris Sunday ended up in the sea.

New debris, including what appears to be a large chunk of the plane, and a 20-kilometre-long oil slick were found yesterday, Brazilian air force spokesman Col. Jorge Amaral said.

The debris was discovered about 90 kilometres south of where searchers a day earlier found an airplane seat, a fuel slick, an orange life vest and pieces of white debris.

The recovery effort is expected to be exceedingly challenging. Storm season is starting in the area and water depths sink to 7,000 metres in some areas.

A Brazilian navy spokeswoman said if the black boxes are at the bottom of the sea there was nothing the Brazil navy could do as it does not have remotely controlled subs needed to withstand the pressure at the ocean's bottom.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOB EDME-POOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Air France employees stand outside the Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris yesterday during an ecumenical church service for relatives and families of the passengers of Air France's Flight 447.

Canadians face tough task identifying friend from foe

AFGHANISTAN Canadian soldiers took a man in for questioning yesterday after a five-hour foot patrol through villages and fields where local farmers complained about being fired upon while tending to grape and wheat fields that surround the isolated patrol base of Sperwan Ghar.

The man could not explain what he was doing in the area of southern Afghanistan where Taliban rebels frequently deploy improvised explosive devices.

Despite his insistence he had been unemployed for nine years, the 43-year-old man was carrying a small quantity of Pakistani money. He also tested positive for fertilizer residue, which is sometimes used to manufacture explosives.

Daisy chain

- Last week, Canadian forces in the Sperwan Ghar area neutralized a "daisy chain" — a series of connected explosives that could have destroyed an entire foot patrol had it been detonated.

The soldiers also questioned an eight-year-old boy, who burst into tears, and his 10-year-old cousin, who had been working the fields near where the man was walking.

While the presence of children is usually taken by soldiers as a sign there's no immediate danger, youngsters are often used by the Taliban as scouts. However, neither boy said he knew the man.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

CUBA The Organization of American States announced yesterday it has revoked a 1962 measure suspending communist Cuba, reversing a landmark of the Cold War. Cuba, however, has repeatedly said it has no interest in returning to the 34-member organization.

ODDITY A New Hampshire man has been arrested for the 153rd time, this time after he was accused of punching someone in the face over the weekend.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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China blocks more blogs

Foreign journalists were barred from Beijing's Tiananmen Square yesterday as an Internet clampdown that blocked Twitter expanded to include more blogs on the eve of the 20th anniversary of a bloody crackdown on pro-democracy protests.

In a further sign of the government's unwavering hardline stance toward the protests, the second most-wanted student leader from 1989 said he had been denied entry to the Chinese territory of Macau. In exile since fleeing China after the crackdown, Wu'er Kaixi travelled to Macau yesterday to turn himself in to authorities in a bid to return home. Immigration officers at Macau's airport pulled him aside and demanded he fly back to Taiwan.

Shut

- Government Internet monitors have shuttered message boards on more than 6,000 websites affiliated with colleges and universities, according to Hong Kong-based Information Centre for Human Rights and Democracy.

Authorities have also shut photo-sharing site Flickr and confined dissidents to their homes or forced them to leave Beijing, as they ramped up efforts to prevent online discussions about the military assault on demonstrators on the night of June 3-4, 1989.

The sweeping measures have been imposed even though there were few signs of efforts to mark the protests within mainland China. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. accidentally posts nuke sites

SENSITIVE The U.S. government accidentally posted on the Internet a list of government and civilian nuclear facilities and their activities, but U.S. officials said yesterday the posting included no information that compromised national security.

The 266-page document was published on May 6 as a transmission from U.S. President Barack Obama to Congress. According to the document, the list was required by law and will be provided to the International Atomic Energy Agency. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Dixie Outlet Mall, Mississauga

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DIGICELL.CA
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Pacific Mall, Unit E28, C3
77 James Street North, Hamilton
UNI-CELL TELECOM
Denison Centre, Markham
UNIPAGE
Pacific Place Mall, Markham
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EU provides €19B to fight unemployment

On the eve of European Parliament elections, the EU's executive yesterday opened its wallet wide, offering member states €19 billion ($29.6 billion) to combat a surge in unemployment amid the recession. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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toronto hydro electric system

Toronto among 50 most expensive cities to rent

A depressed global economy that has seen rents fall dramatically in most major cities has knocked perennial front-runner London out of the top spot among the most expensive to set up an office.

But Toronto and Calgary remain in the global top 50 because Canada has been relatively healthy compared to other financial centres, according to a report by CB Richard Ellis released yesterday.

Toronto is the 46th most expensive place to rent top-quality office space, up one spot from last year, with average rents of $51.82 US ($57.57) per square foot. That's down from $62.44.

Calgary moved up three spots to 39th, with average costs per square foot of $54.57, down from $66.27.

TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto's financial district is shown yesterday.

"It's not that Calgary and Toronto did all that great; it's that other world markets have taken a bashing," said John O'Bryan, vice-chairman of CB Richard Ellis. "We took one step back but the rest of the world took five. They got hammered."

The No. 1 holder, London's West End, was knocked off this year by Tokyo's central district.

The most expensive office location in North America remains midtown Manhattan, although rents there have also dropped significantly, down 30 per cent to $68 per square foot.

In Toronto, vacancy rates for office buildings jumped to 7.7 per cent in the first quarter of 2009, compared with 6.8 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2008, according to CB Richard Ellis.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In brief

AEROSPACE Bombardier Inc. says general economic weakness and corporate jet cancellations have squeezed profits and revenues in the fiscal first quarter. Overall revenue slipped to $4.5 billion from $4.8 billion recorded last year, said the company.

CLOTHING Women's clothing retailer Reitmans (Canada) Ltd. said yesterday higher merchandise costs from the fourth quarter continued into the first three months of this fiscal year, pushing its profit down 58 per cent to $7.8 million compared with $18.4 million generated in the same period last year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Consumer confidence climbs to highest level in 15 months

SunnySide

ECONOMY Fewer Canadians anticipate a worsening domestic economy in the coming year, suggests a Harris-Decima poll that found consumer confidence at its highest level in 15 months.

Results from the survey conducted in late May put the overall confidence index at 78.5, up from 67 last February and the highest since February 2008 when the index was at 79.

About 29 per cent of those surveyed over the last 10 days of May by Harris-Decima said they expected economic times to worsen in the coming year, compared with 59 per cent in February.

At the same time, the percentage of respondents who expected good times ahead doubled to 20 per cent in the most recent survey. About 44 per cent believed business conditions wouldn't change over the next year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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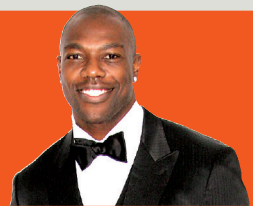
Offsetting the Games
Vancouver Olympic organizers have signed a deal to offset carbon emissions from the 2010 Winter Games. B.C.-based Offsetters will invest in technology such as hydrogen fuel cells to offset 110,000 tonnes of carbon emissions. But the $5-million deal doesn't include an estimated 190,000 tonnes of "indirect" emissions generated by the Games. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports



T.O.'s house-hunting woes

New Buffalo Bill wide receiver Terrel Owens, left, has apparently run into a snag looking for a place to stay in Buffalo. Tuesday night, Owens posted a message through Twitter.com that he's "tripping about residents" that won't rent an Orchard Park, N.Y., house to him because they "(don't) want any drama (in) their neighborhood!! LOL!!! Wow!!." Real estate agent Bob Wozniak reportedly disputed Owens' complaint. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

LEAFS The Toronto Maple Leafs have signed draft picks Mikhail Stefanovich, Carl Gunnarsson and Juraj Mikus to entry level contracts.
Stefanovich, 19, was the Leafs' fourth-round choice in the 2008 Entry Draft, Gunnarsson was Toronto's sixth pick in the 2007 draft and Mikus was the fourth choice in the 2007 draft.

BASEBALL The same day they released career 305-game winner Tom Glavine, the Atlanta Braves acquired all-star centre fielder Nate McLouth from the Pittsburgh Pirates for three prospects, a move to beef up Atlanta's offence in hopes of contending in the NL East.

SOCCER Manchester United announced a four-year shirt sponsorship agreement with Chicago-based insurance broker Aon Corp. yesterday in what media reports said was worth more than $130 million US. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Angels thump Jays

MLB RESULTS

Los Angeles 8 Toronto 1

VS

Casey Janssen pitched well enough to give the Toronto Blue Jays a chance to win in his first two starts since returning from shoulder surgery, despite the regular contact made by his opponents.

Last night the hits kept on coming against him, but his ability to limit the damage ran out, as the Los Angeles Angels knocked him around early and often in an 8-1 victory.

Janssen (1-2) gave up three runs in the first on Bobby Abreu's two-run shot and a sacrifice fly by Juan Rivera, another in the third on an RBI single by Kendry Morales and one more in the fourth on Chone Figgins' run-scoring double.

Against an effective Jered Weaver (5-2) that meant big trouble for the Blue Jays (30-25), who didn't manage a hit until Adam Lind's double in the fifth and mostly alternated between looking hopeless and ridiculous at the plate all night. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blue Jays shortstop Marco Scutaro tags out Angels catcher Jeff Mathis last night as Mathis attempts to steal second base.

Penguins hope to alter last year's Cup script

(Detroit leads series 2-1)

Detroit at Pittsburgh

VS

HOCKEY This is where the Pittsburgh Penguins hope to veer from the script.

Even though the Stanley Cup final has followed the exact same pattern as a year ago, the Penguins believe this series could be on the way to a different ending. Trailing the Red Wings 2-1 once again, they have a sense of confidence they lacked the last time around.

It was evident in the atmosphere at Mellon Arena on the eve of tonight's Game 4.

"I think we're a lot happier with the way we've played," said captain Sidney Crosby. "You know, last year (the) first two games I look back on those and we weren't happy at all. We knew we had a lot of work to do. We hadn't found our game yet ... But I feel like at this point we know what it takes. We know what makes us successful."

The biggest difference from the Penguins perspective is probably the play of Evgeni Malkin. He leads the playoffs in scoring with 33 points and has been in on five of his team's six goals so far in this series.

The Russian also provided a pretty good glimpse into the loose atmosphere around his team yesterday, when he cracked a joke at the expense of linemate Max Talbot. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Canada moves up by six spots

FIFA released its latest world rankings yesterday and Canada's men's national team climbed six places to No. 83 after its 1-0 win over Cyprus. European champion Spain celebrated a year at No. 1 while the Netherlands climbed to second. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jitters get best of Serena

Williams' major tournament winning streak ends at 18 matches

American Serena Williams, of all people, got a case of the jitters.

That was her explanation, anyway.

The 10-time Grand Slam champion kept finding herself in, then out of, trouble in the French Open quarterfinals yesterday, until running out of stamina and strokes down the stretch of a 7-6 (3), 5-7, 7-5 loss to Svetlana Kuznetsova that ended Williams' 18-match winning streak at major tournaments.

"I had an opportunity, and I got really tight, and I pretty much gave it to her," said the second-seeded Williams, who blew a 3-1 lead in the third set. "It was like, 'Here. Do you want to go to the semis? Because I don't.' She was like, 'OK.'"

Kuznetsova's semifinal opponent today is No. 30 Samantha Stosur of Australia, who defeated Sorana Cirstea of Romania 6-1, 6-3. The other women's semifinal is No. 1 Dinara Safina of Russia against No. 20 Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia.

BERNAT ARMANGUE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serena Williams reacts after losing to Svetlana Kuznetsova during quarter-final action yesterday at the French Open.

Kuznetsova-Williams was hyper-competitive until Kuznetsova took eight of the last nine points, breaking Williams in the final game.

"Honestly, I think I lost because of me," Williams said, "and not because of anything she did."

Switzerland's Roger Federer spoke about dealing with nerves yesterday, too, although his problems came before he began playing 11th-seeded Gael Monfils of France.

"We're all nervous at this stage of the competition. I felt it. Yesterday I felt it, and I felt it again today in the warmup," said Federer, who knows this might be his best chance to win the only Grand Slam tournament missing from his resumé. "I was tired, I was nervous, and I didn't feel really good.

"Then, once out on court, you know, I get my act together."

Federer beat Monfils 7-6 (6), 6-2, 6-4 to close in on completing a career Grand Slam and earning a 14th major title to tie American Pete Sampras' career record.

Meanwhile, a Canadian advanced in junior women's doubles. Katarena Paliivets of Richmond Hill and partner Chanel Simmonds of South Africa moved into the quarter-finals after a 6-4, 6-2 win over Americans Christina Mchale and Sloane Stephens.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Black Mamba poised to strike

NBA Final Preview

Orlando at L.A. Lakers

BASKETBALL His smile has vanished, replaced by something closer to a scowl. His days of joking around seem to be on hold.

Kobe Bryant has gotten deadly serious.

He has that look — you've seen the one. It's the cold-blooded, get-out-of-my-way-or-pay glare he'll shoot at a teammate who messes up or an opponent who dares to try to stop him.

The Black Mamba is poised to strike.

The NBA finals are in his sights.

After a humbling loss to the Boston Celtics in last year's finals, Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers will be seeking atonement and a 15th championship when they face the resurrected Orlando Magic in Game 1 tonight at the Staples Centre.

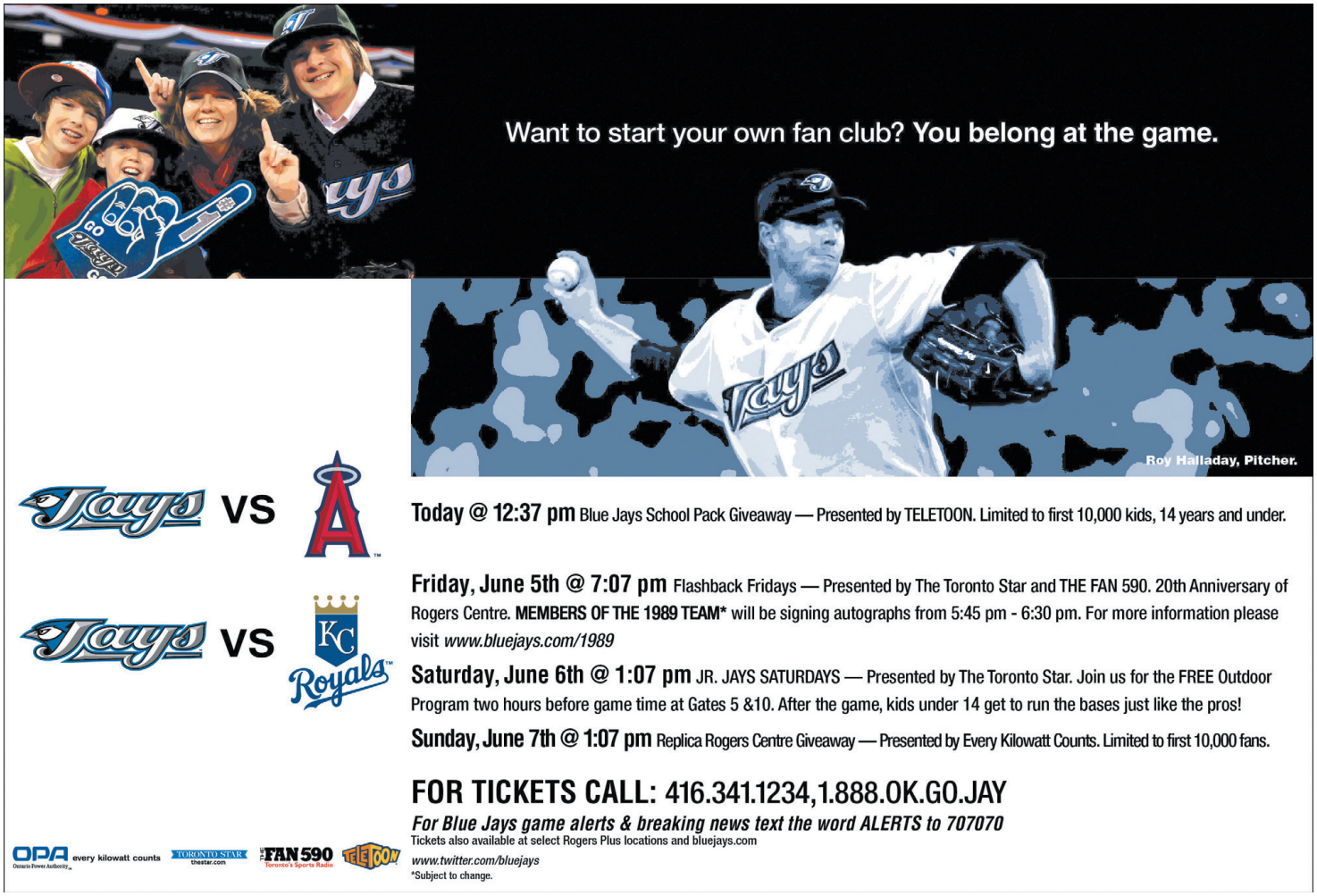
For Bryant, the game's greatest late-game closer since Michael Jordan, it's a second opportunity at shutting up some of his loudest detractors. He has won three titles, but hasn't been able to get No. 4 since Shaquille O'Neal was traded after the 2004 season to Miami.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

NHL The Colorado Avalanche began their rebuilding process in a major way yesterday, firing head coach Tony Granato and naming Greg Sherman general manager. The NHL club sacked Granato and five other members of the hockey operations staff after the team posted its worst record since moving to Denver from Quebec in 1995.

BOXING David Haye has pulled out of his world heavyweight title fight with IBF and WBO champion Wladimir Klitschko because of an injury. The British fighter had been scheduled to challenge Klitschko before a crowd of more than 60,000 at Schalke's football stadium in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, on June 20. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Gardening

Metro Homes

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EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Growing your own

Pg 22/23

The gardening sector is booming these days because more people are deciding to grow their own vegetables and herbs, experts say.

Beautiful roses

Pg 18

Gardening experts' take on the fairest rose of them all.

Style At Home

Pg 20

Take the guess work out with a lesson on wall coverings.

Suite Talk

Pg 24

Twickingham model home aims high — with high ceilings.

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Canadian Gardening Magazine
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Outside Decor

Canadian Gardening

Gardening experts pick their fave rose

Q What's your favourite rose and why?

Des Kennedy | Denman Island, B.C. • Author

Étoile de Hollande for its velvet red blooms and gorgeous scent. Mind you, Madame Isaac Pereire smells at least as fine, and Dublin Bay (Macdub) is easily as rich in colour, although none's more elegant than Constance Spry, except perhaps Madame Grégoire Staechelin, but the abundance of Kiftsgate outdoes them all, and the subtly changing colours of Alchymist are hard to beat, aren't they? Hmm, you did say just one favourite, didn't you?

Wilf Nicholls | St. John's • Director, Botanical Garden Memorial University of Newfoundland:

One favourite rose? There are 20,000 of them out there! There's the heady fragrance of Hansa (a rugosa selection), the pink hue of the western wild rose Rosa woodsii in the Alberta foothills, the towering Kiftsgate (R. filipes Kiftsgate) climbing up a huge Douglasfir, or the proud The Queen Elizabeth, a floribunda from the '50s. I can't pick one!

Albert Mondar | Montreal • Horticulturist, garden designer, writer, television host:

My own garden doesn't have enough sun for roses and, as a garden designer, I'm not too keen on them. Many of my clients ask for roses but are rarely willing to spray them with pesticides, fertilize often and put imposing winter protection on them. My advice to those who truly want trouble- and hassle-free roses is to plant plastic ones!

Charlie Dobbin | Richmond Hill, Ont. • Owner, Garden Solutions by Charlie Dobbin

This is like trying to choose a favourite child! But if I have to, I choose Bonica rose (R. Meidomonac). It's a rose-pink dependable bloomer, disease resistant, slightly fragrant, grows in a manageable way and doesn't require any special winter protection. It also never argues, asks for the car or stays out all night!

Jim Hole | St. Albert, Alta. • Co-owner, Hole's Greenhouses

My pick is the delightfully fragrant, snowy white Marie Bugnet, hybridized in 1963 by amateur, but very successful, plant breeder George Bugnet, who lived just a few kilometres from our farm. Named after his mother, who likely sanctioned its moniker — with one caveat: "As long as it doesn't have big hips." It doesn't. In fact, it develops no hips at all.

–PRODUCED BY CAROL COWAN

JOHN GLOVER PHOTO

ANDREW MCLACHLAN PHOTO

A hen and her ducklings.

Clippings

Have pond, ducks will travel

FAUNA The Mallard Duck: Very common throughout Canada, and the most likely duck to be attracted to large, natural ponds or slow-moving rivers near gardens is the mallard (Anas platyrhynchos). The diet of these 58-centimetre-long dabbling ducks — which "tipup," dunking their heads beneath the water to reach food sources in deeper water — consists of aquatic plants, seeds, insects and snails,although they'll readily accept duck food available at most pet food stores. Hens are mottled and brownish, while the drakes have an iridescent green head, yellow bill and greyish body. Numerous eggs are laid in nests among dense vegetation close to a water source.

–ANDREW MCLACHLAN

Rose convention

BEST IN SHOW The 2009 World Rose Convention is being held in Vancouver from June 18 to 24. Visit worldrosefestival.com for more. CANADIAN GARDENING

MILLETTE PHOTOMEDIA

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Notable plant

Redbor Kale

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Size: 45 to 60 cm tall

Cultivation: Full sun. For a fall crop, direct-sow in rich soil in late June, spacing seeds 7.5 cm apart and then thinning to 30 cm apart.

–LORRAINE FLANIGAN

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Dead Sea beauty

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–BRETT WALTHER
– PRODUCED BY ANN MARIE FAVOT

1: Graham & Brown Flock Effect 17153 Elizabeth in Black & White $60 per roll, The home depot. 2: Phillip Jeffries Juicy Jute grasscloth in Chinese Red 4818 and Meyer Lemon 4822 $47 per yard, Crown Wallpaper & Fabrics. 3: Thibaut 839T7436 Masquerade in yellow $168 per roll, Crown Wallpaper & Fabrics. 4: Marcel Wanders 58018 Isabella in Red $75 US per roll, Graham & Brown.

Wary of wallpapering your space? Karen Keller, product manager of Graham & Brown Canada, and Sarah Cole, director of Farrow & Ball, share their tips for getting you over your wallcovering willies with Style At Home.

Q Why are so many people afraid of using wallpaper?

A KAREN KELLER Their biggest fears are about installation and removal. It's a fear of commitment — that the paper will be difficult to put up and remove.

SARAH COLE If you're afraid to commit to an entire room, try using it as an accent. Wallpaper can create scale and add texture to a room. It can be striking on a feature wall or lining the inside of cupboards, alcoves or shelving.

Q Some papers can be rather expensive.

A SARAH COLE Yes, but Farrow & Ball papers are unique. They're made to order at the company's factory in Dorset, England, using Farrow & Ball's environmentally friendly zero-VOC paints and traditional manufacturing techniques. Each design has a texture that's achieved by hand-brushing the background colour. Plus, the patterns are block printed, and the stripes and striés are trough printed.

Q Are there options for those of us working with a smaller budget?

A KAREN KELLER Sure, there are plenty of great patterns in more affordable brands. On a limited budget of $100, you could conceivably paper an 8' x 10' feature wall yourself; that total would include the cost of two double rolls and all supplies, like paste, a roller tray and a blade.

Q Any helpful hints for first timers?

A SARAH COLE Start by measuring the height and width of all walls to be papered, taking into account the pattern repeat, to calculate the quantity of paper required. Prior to hanging, all surfaces must be clean and dry. Remove any wallpaper, dirt or flaking paint; fill in cracks and irregularities with filler; and sand glossy paint finishes.

KAREN KELLER Once you've prepped, applying wallpaper yourself is actually quite easy, but if you have any reservations, take baby steps! Following the instructions on the back of the product label, hang two strips of paper and wait a day to see the end result. If it turns out well, you can continue; if not, remove and correct.

–WRITTEN BY JENN HOULIHAN
–PRODUCED BY CHRISTINE HANLON

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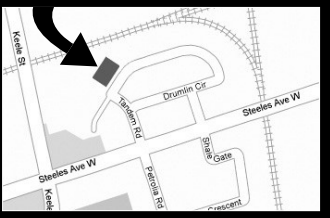

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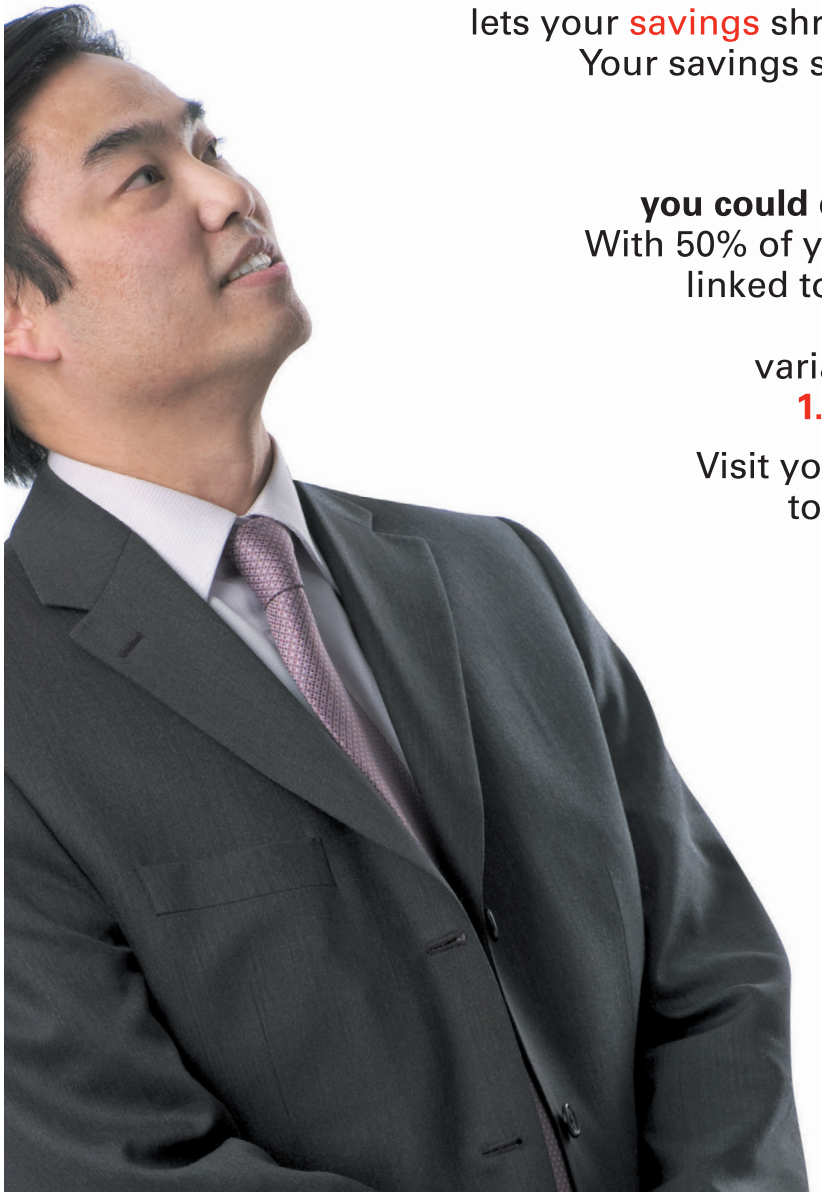

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Business blooming in nation's nurseries

The nation's plant nurseries are booming as an economic downturn and a "grow it yourself" trend is sending Canadians out to play in their gardens.

Rebecca van der Zalm, the manager of operations for Art's Nursery in Surrey, B.C., says her store is bustling and her staff are swamped on one of the most popular gardening weekends of the year.

"It's been really busy the last few weeks," she said.

"Even if there is an economic downturn, my philosophy is that people are staying home more and entertaining more so they want to pretty up their patio pots and their gardens so they can enjoy their down time."

She suspects Canadians are cutting fine dining from their budgets and turning instead to home-cooked meals eaten on the deck and backyard barbecues.

"(Gardens aren't just) satisfying and relaxing — for some it's a form of entertainment and they can enjoy the results."
Rebecca van der Zalm from a B.C. nursery

"The first things that go are the luxury items, the going out to eat, the new car," van der Zalm said.

"But when it comes to the garden people get a lot of satisfaction out of it. And it's not only satisfying and relaxing — for some it's a form of entertainment and they can enjoy the results."

More consumer are choosing to grow their own food and herbs.

In Quebec, Pepiniere Jasmin's president Pierre Jasmin says it's not just the province's early spring that's helping cultivate business at his Montreal-area nursery. "We're a privileged sector," he said.

CONT. ON NEXT PAGE>>

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How to avoid the dreaded scourge of the bedbug

HomeScape
Sylvia Putz

metronews.ca/homescape

Travelling anytime in the near future? Keep in mind that you need to be careful not to bring home unwelcome guests.

If you haven't guessed it already, I'm talking about bedbugs.

There are many recommendations to keep them out of your home, but one way they move around is by hitchhiking, moving around in luggage and clothing of travelling people. So it is easy to bring home — shall we say — souvenirs of our time away.

These bugs are visible to the eye and range in size up to a quarter-inch in length. They can be as flat as a piece of paper before feeding, and look fatter after they've had their supper. See toronto.ca/health/bedbugs.htm for pictures and information to help you identify the bug.

They can be found more frequently in hotels, even in well-kept hotels, or other places where travellers sleep, so get into the habit of routinely checking beds for signs of the bugs' presence when you travel. Given half a chance, they can settle in very nicely in other places, including homes and even offices and other public places, so don't give them that chance.

When you stay in a hotel, you don't have to tear the place apart, but do lift up the sheet and take a close look at the tufts in the mattress, and check out the hidden space under the piping around the mattress edges. But, if you see evidence that the bugs have been visiting, such as tiny red or brown pinpoint stains on the mattress or linens, inform the management right away (since they need to take immediate measures to get rid of the bedbugs) and ask to change your room, preferably to the other side of the building. Bug bodies or skins (since they shed their skins) or pinhead-sized whitish eggs in cracks are also not good signs.

When you stay in a hotel, protect yourself further by leaving all belongings in your luggage and avoid putting them in drawers. Since these bugs do not fly and get around by crawling, do not leave luggage on the floor—place it on baggage racks or shelves off the floor, and make sure the suitcase is completely zipped shut when you are not using it. You may want to tape the ends of zippers, or even wrap it in plastic to seal shut any possible way for a bedbug to find its way into your suitcase. Finally, do not leave clothing strewn about, as bedbugs can hide in seams of clothing or behind labels.

And if you wake up with itchy bumps or spots on your skin that were not there on the previous evening, you can suspect that you may have been bitten by a bedbug. If it happens, do not to panic. However unsavoury, bedbugs do not appear to transmit diseases, but many people develop itchy spots, much like mosquito bites. However, do take precautions to avoid bringing them home.

When you get home after a suspected exposure to bedbugs, leave luggage in the garage or an isolated space in the home, and only bring in the contents when you are ready to wash them in hot water. Dry them in the hottest dryer setting possible. Also inspect and thoroughly clean your suitcase and any bags.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

Gardening: 'A privileged sector'

CONT. FROM LAST PAGE

"People come to us regardless of the hard times. We haven't seen a drop in sales at all. We've seen the same thing during other economic downturns. It's an interesting phenomenon."

The recession and a craze for all things ecological are also driving up the sale of fruit and vegetable plants.

Spiking produce prices may be further spurring the growth of gardening.

Statistics Canada recently reported that the cost of fresh vegetables increased by 26 per cent and fresh fruit prices jumped by 19 per cent between March 2008 and March 2009.

In fact, growing your own vegetables is shaping up to be one of the hottest horticulture trends of 2009, according to the Garden Media Group.

"It's been really hard to keep up with our vegetable sales and our herb sales have doubled," van der Zalm agreed.

Gardening is one of the most popular leisure activities in Canada. About 75 per cent of Canadian households purchased garden supplies and services in 2007.

"It may be partly saving cash, it may be partly being green and there's been a lot of press on growing your own things and trying to get more organic. Vegetable and herb gardening is a great way to start. It's exciting to eat the product you're growing and it's a great thing to do as a family."

It's a fad that Jasmin has noticed as well.

"It's a return to the earth, they're looking for a return on their investment," he said.

"They want something that bears fruit. When people spend money now they want to spend sensibly — they're not spending on esthetic things, they're not buying as many decorative plants."

Gardening is one of the most popular leisure activities in Canada. About 75 per cent of Canadian households purchased garden supplies and services in 2007 and nursery sales across Canada totalled $630 million, according to government statistics.

It's also a hobby that can be enjoyed by urban, suburban and rural Canadians at any income level.

"Our business caters to people from all economic incomes," van der Zalm noted.

"You can get into gardening on a large scale or a small scale. There are veggies you can grow, even in a pot."

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So, do you think you're 'buy ready' in this market?

There's a term I like to familiarize my friends and clients with — "Buy Ready." You can have your finances, needs and wants and particular building in order, but being Buy Ready enables you to take advantage of your planning.

The good units in popular buildings can be gone in a matter of days, even in today's market. It's ok to have specific requirements, as many do — a view of the lake, higher than floor X, a washroom you don't have to cross the living room to get to, and so on, but if you have such requirements/restrictions you have to put yourself in a position to jump on the right unit as soon as it becomes available. Knowing the right unit the instant you see it and being confident in your level of education of the building is being Buy Ready.

"...you have to put yourself in a position to jump on the right unit as soon as it becomes available. Knowing the right unit the instant you see it ... is being Buy Ready."

For example, many buyers need parking and a locker. Especially in the most popular buildings, such units are hard to come by. The educated buyer will know that in most cases additional spots from the builder are impossible. They will also know that current owners often sell or rent parking spots or lockers. They'll know the rough costs for each, where and how to find availabilities, and know how to actually acquire each or both, and they'll know this before other buyers — you need to be thinking about the right price while others are thinking about the right building. You should also be confident that you really need a locker, for example, given how expensive they've become over the past few years.

If you can't determine whether pursuing is a good idea as soon as you view a place your education level is not where it should be. Please don't mistake moving quickly here for moving irrationally. The main point is that any rational thinking you might do after the showing you can, and should, do before. Imagine going into a project meeting without knowing the relevant competition, stats, pros/cons, and goals beforehand.

Unfortunately many people have been conditioned through negative experiences with poor agents to believe that moving quickly is always a bad thing. It's important to understand that you can move fast for the wrong reasons, but you can also move fast for the right reasons. Those reasons include giving yourself the best chance of securing the condo, or house, you want. Make no mistake that even in this market the best opportunities are faced with multiple buyers. I recently showed a power of sale home which generated three offers within the first 24 hours. Because we were educated on all the aspects of a power of sale and a multiple offer situation, we were able to move swiftly, intelligently, and secure a very good deal.

Amit is a Realtor/Developer with Re/Max. amitp@rogers.com

Open, airy and entertaining

Suite Talk

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

Seen here are some shots of the Twickingham model home.

High ceilings and an airy, bright, open feeling mark the Twickingham model home in Castlefields on Carruther's Creek, the Ajax community located at Audley Road and Rossland Road East.

"It's almost a very Californian feel," said Brian Ellis, sales manager for Medallion Developments, which created the community. "The whole idea behind these homes is that they're very grand. They're built for very open concept living, for someone who does a lot of entertaining and somebody who wants something different than just the everyday mundane."

The Twickingham sports 12-foot high ceilings on the main level to match the open layout, which Ellis said conveys the spaciousness of the home. "You don't have a lot of vestibules or hallways that take up a lot of space in your home. The rooms are all huge and open to another." He noted this is exemplified on the main floor, where just a three-sided fireplace and media niche separate the family room from the living room/dining room. A neutral, earth-tone colour palette fills the walls and furniture in the Twickingham, which Ellis said was a conscious choice to appeal to the Ajax market.

"Although these are built for entertaining … we're still primarily selling it to families.

"They still like the calming effect of the earth tones and the more muted colours.

"The decor is modern, in a restricted way," he said.

The scheme continues in the kitchen, with soft colours and natural wood cabinets.

"The trends now are painted cabinets and natural woods, as opposed to lacquers," said Ellis. "The cabinetry colours were meant to blend in with the earth tones — the natural decor we're trying to promote in this particular house."

Homes in Castlefields on Carruther's Creek range from 1,400 to 3,663 square feet, with both detached and semi-detached options available. Prices start at $264,990 and reach $481,990.

For more information, visit castlefields.ca or call 905-426-1532.

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The down and dirty on dirt

Black earth, top soil, lawn soil, potting soil ... They all basically look the same, so does it really make a difference which one you use?

"Selecting the right soil is your first step to gardening success," says Syd Pell, Scotts Canada growing media specialist. "Soils are actually made up of several different ingredients, blended for a specific gardening use. These ingredients may include topsoil, sand, manure, sphagnum peat moss, humus, compost, perlite and bark. The mix ratio determines how well the soil will support the specific requirements of each plant type, such as nutrients, root support, drainage and moisture retention."

Here's a guide to some of the most popular soil types.

• **Lawn Soil** is specifically blended to support overseeding and the growth of healthy grass. It is a blend of sphagnum peat moss, compost and manure. These ingredients increase porosity, allowing more water and nutrients to reach the roots.

• **Garden Soil** helps improve soil condition and control moisture. It is blended to support and nurture the delicate roots of vegetables and flowers. It often comprises nutrient-rich ingredients such as composted matter, manure, and peat.

• **Topsoil** and **Black Earth** work as a base for gardens and lawns and for filling in holes and leveling lawns. Typically low in nutrients, they should be amended with other more nutrient rich products. Premium topsoils, such as Scotts Pro Blends Top Soil add compost and sphagnum peat moss for improved nutrients and drainage.

• **Organic Compost** is designed for in-ground gardens. Scotts Pro Blends Organic compost is a professional-quality blend of compost and manure, containing essential organic matter from composted leaves and yard clippings. Add it to flower and vegetable beds for healthier plant growth and more abundant vegetables and blooms.

• **Potting Mix.** Since container-bound plants live in a self-contained eco system, proper moisture control is essential. Miracle-Gro Moisture Control Potting Mix contains coconut fibre, which retains moisture between waterings while improving soil aeration and drainage.

• **Top it all off with Mulch.** Mulch not only makes your garden look great, but also retards weed growth, helps conserve soil moisture and act as a plant blanket by moderating soil temperatures. Keep your garden looking beautiful longer with innovative Nature Scapes mulch, which is guaranteed not to fade to gray.

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Knowing the best soil for your need is imperative in gardening.

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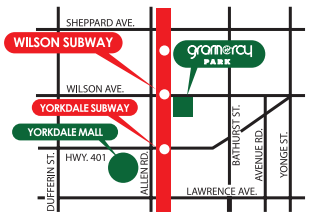

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Attracting nice birds easier than you think

For many gardeners, having songbirds visit is one of the benefits of having a garden in the first place. It's always a delight to see the variety of birds that drop by for a nibble or a rest. If you want to create a bird-friendly garden, it's important to attract them with natural sources of food as well as using bird feeders.

Birds have simple needs: Food, water, shelter, and protection from predators. Naturally, native birds thrive on native plants, so choose a selection of regional beauties that produce seeds, berries, or nectar. Work dead trees or old stumps into your landscape to attract insect-eaters and provide shelter. The more diverse your food supply is, the more variety of birds you'll see in your garden. Also you can help birds out by placing bird feeders in your yard filling them with a high quality seed that is balanced in nutrition like Scotts or Morning Song Wild Bird Food. The type of food you feed attracts different kinds of birds. Smaller seeds like thistle seed attract bright yellow gold finches.

NEWS CANADA

The more diverse your food supply, the more variety of birds you'll see in your garden.

"People like buying our pre-filled thistle sock because all you do is hang it in the tree and within days you can have several birds feeding from it — it easy and convenient. You do not even need a feeder for it," says Syd Pell who heads up the bird food division at Scotts Canada. Larger birds like to perch on feeders and eat mixes of seed with an all time favourite being sunflower seed. Pell explains "A mixed food will provide a good ratio of nutrients for the birds. We worked with the Toronto Zoo to develop the right mix of seeds to meet the nutritional needs of birds."

In addition to putting out feeders, you can also grow plants that bloom and produce fruit, seeds or nuts - attracting even more birds to your backyard. When possible, use plants that are native to your area. Many perennials, grasses, vines, shrubs and trees provide food for birds.

- Black-Eyed Susan (seeds)
- Common Evening Primrose (seeds)
- Coneflower (seeds)
- Fireweed (nectar)
- Phlox (nectar)
- Sunflower (seeds)

It's easy to add the beauty of birds to your backyard this summer. For more information visit scottswildbirdfood.ca.

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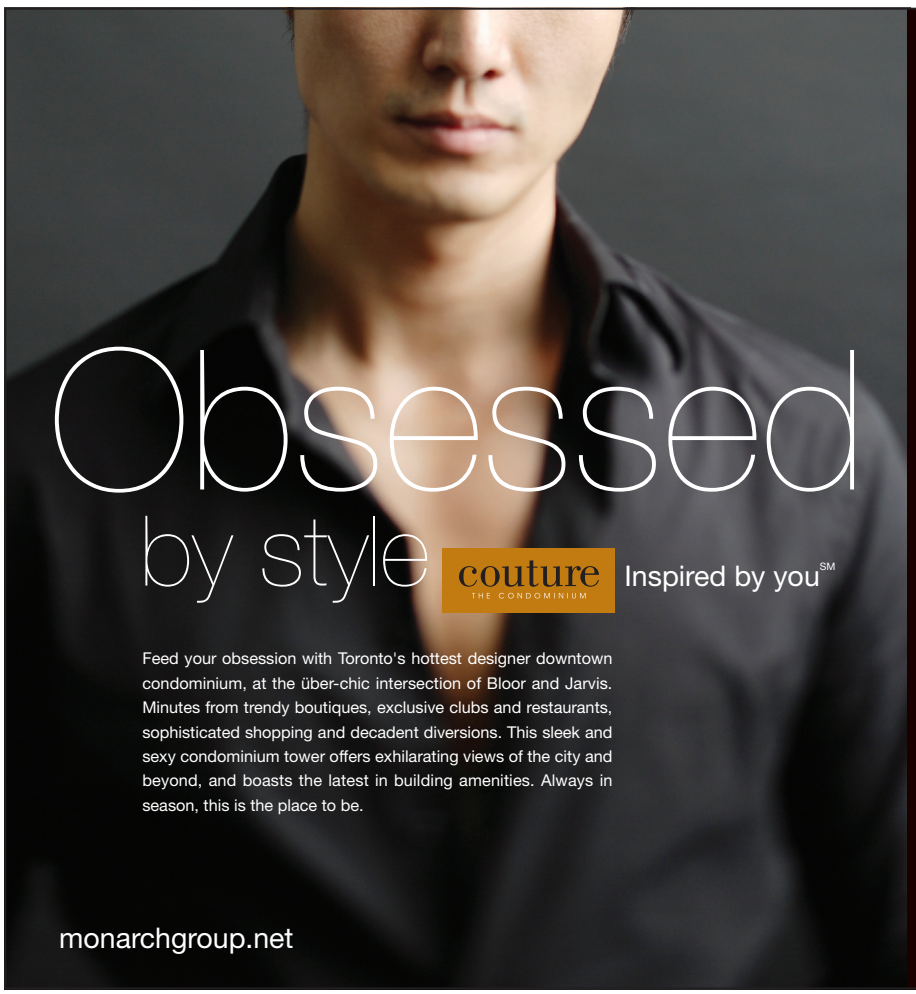
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A sticky condo closing situation

LegalMatters

Jeffrey D. Cowan
jeff@cowanandtaylor.com

Q I had written to you a while back and you responded in your article about not getting what we want. Basically, the time has come for use to move into our new condominium (the entire building has been in interim possession for months) and there are some major deficiencies that the builder is not able to address. In particular, there are three proposed west facing windows in our unit that the builder has bricked over and will not open up and also where a tub and a shower were supposed to be situated in the ensuite master bathroom, they can only fit a shower stall. We want the condo but we would like a reduction in the purchase price. What should we do?

A You are in a bit of a situation because you want the unit but at a reduced cost; which is entirely understandable.

You should have your lawyer request an abatement (a reduction) in the purchase price prior to closing. Presumably, the response you will get is that there will be no abatement in the purchase price and closing is set as usual. Here comes the tricky part. If you state that you won't close unless they drop the price you are entering into the "thick cloud" of legal jargon known as "anticipatory breach" wherein the vendors can actually turn around and say they have been put on notice that you have no intention of closing as originally planned and therefore the transaction is null and void.

You and your lawyer need to tread carefully around this matter and be prepared to close the transaction with the deficiencies, if that is at all palatable to you.

It sounds like you folks have had a nightmare (which happens unfortunately all too often). Listen to your lawyer's advice and try for a compromise in all things. Remember, the builder wants to close this transaction with as few hitches and smooth sailing regardless of how you feel you've been treated.

Jeffrey D. Cowan is with Cowan & Taylor, Barristers & Solicitors. The info in this article should not be relied upon as legal advice.

Eleven opens in Yorkville
Eleven boutique recently opened its doors at 116 Cumberland St., in the heart of Toronto's Yorkville area. It showcases great Canadian fashion lines alongside international collections. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Style

Léger launches at BCBGMAXAZRIA

Iconic fashion label Hervé Léger by Max Azria expanded its Canadian presence this week with a new 27-piece collection at three flagship BCBGMAXAZRIA stores in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. The mostly bright-coloured summer collection features party dresses and skirts ranging from $788 to $3,000. (Left: Hervé Léger grey dress). The Toronto store is located at 50 Bloor St. W.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Beading the odds

Crafty embellishments make an unexpected comeback

Beads are the new bling. Unlike precious jewels, beads give off a naive and crafty vibe — wholly appropriate for these frugal times.

Seed beads, those tiny ones the size of a pinhead, have had a long career in the world of craft.

They've always been a hit with kids at summer camp who created colourful string jewellery. They were also popular with hippies in the '70s.

This summer, the bead is making an unexpected return to fashion. Entire handbags are covered in a dazzling display of beads in every imaginable colour.

Simple necklaces are fashioned out of colourful strands of them. Even shoes get the beaded treatment, embellished with these tiny dots of colour.

"They are a reminder of the peace-loving, innocent times of the hippie era. It's an embellishment but not over the top," says Cyndy Calder, owner of The Bead Goes On, a store that specializes in vintage beaded accessories. "These beads are not expensive."

And beads' reappearance seems perfectly timed — in this economy, no one wants to be seen as extravagant.

Everyone is aware that people are struggling and it would be pretty inconsiderate to be flashy now, says Calder, whose store is on Soudan Ave. at Mount Pleasant Rd.

Beads can be "cheap and cheerful," she notes.

Words to live by this summer.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bangle ($39, Mango).

Round pendant necklace ($15, Courage My Love).

Multi-strand necklace ($20, Aldo Accessories).

Platform shoes ($178, Browns) can also get the beaded treatment.

Pinch-clasp purse ($119, Mango).

PHOTOS BY CARLOS OSORIO / TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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A free spirit approach

Jessica Biel is more than just Justin's girlfriend!

By **ANNE BRODIE**
Contributing Writer

In her latest film, Easy Virtue, Jessica Biel plays Larita, a feisty American divorcee who is seen as a "gold digger from the land of opportunists." While her costars in this frothy British period piece didn't see her in that light, the 27-year-old American actress says that she could relate to her character's struggle to blend in with a well-heeled, upper-crust world. "I felt like a fish out of water, but it was so helpful," says Biel, who enjoyed a middle-class upbringing in Boulder, Colo. "We just kind of exploited that. Anytime I was feeling uncomfortable, the director rolled the cameras!"

The film, which opens this month, is set in the late 1920s and based on a social comedy by Noel Coward that pokes fun at snooty English high society and, at a deeper social level, exposes how American entrepreneurial zeal was overshadowing Britain's imperialism.

Larita, who is a race-car driver, represents the brave new world crashing into the old when she marries British aristocrat John Whittaker (Ben Barnes). When the pair arrive at the Whittaker family pile, John's father (Colin Firth) is charmed by Larita's spirited ways, but his mother (Kristin Scott Thomas) is horrified.

For Biel, starring in Easy Virtue was a career-enhancing move. "It was exactly what I was looking for, something I could throw myself into where everyone is expecting me to fail," Biel told the British press. "I knew I could do it. That's the joy of this business: shaking it up — surprising myself, surprising everybody else — otherwise, people just put you in a box."

Editors' Pick

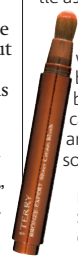
STARLET STYLE

Red resin and black stone earrings ($40, House of Harlow 1960)

Nicole Richie's resumé may be peripatetic — reality-TV star, novelist, wild child, mother — but her sense of personal style is unswerving. No surprise, then, that Richie launched a jewellery line, House of Harlow 1960, this spring that will expand to include clothing accessories next year. "I've always loved jewellery, but I didn't know anything about designing," explains Richie. "I was inspired by African and Indian jewellery books; I wanted the pieces to have a vintage but cultured feel." (at Holt Renfrew, holtrenfrew.com).

NEUTRAL TERRITORY

Take your summer inspiration from the Hermès runway, which showed a pared-down beauty look, with a focus on great skin. The trick is to choose makeup shades that match your skin tone. Start with concealer to hide imperfections, but use as little as possible to let your skin show through. Get a warm glow with a sweep of sheer bronzer or tawny blush. Try brown mascara for a softer look, and finish with a sophisticated nude lip.



By Terry Bronze-Expert Sheer Cream Blush in Coral Beach ($43)

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Click on this
A new online resource is helping busy women bring order and ease to weekly meal planning and grocery shopping: It's called "The Eat Sheet" and it's free. Parenting site MommyTrackd.com offers the download mommytrackd.com/downloads. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Food

As many greens grow in sandy soil, cleaning in several changes of water is often necessary to remove all the grit. Pull off the stems, breaking them off at the leaf.

BARB HOLLAND/FOR METRO CANADA

Spin it
Rinse in several changes of water and spin dry in a salad spinner.

EDITOR: NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Grazing on greens

Some of the first greens are showing up at local markets

À la carte
Barb Holland
metronews.ca/alacarte

Check your market for some local spring produce — there are countless ways to dress a salad.

A variety of greens are one of the first crops at the market: Lettuces, spinach, arugula and watercress. These tender greens tend to be delicate and supple in texture and provide variety, flavour and texture to salads.

More mature greens, dandelion, mustard, chard, kale and the like, will come along in a few weeks and they generally need cooking. Mature greens tend to have large, tough leaves. If you break off a piece and chew it, it will be leathery. Some mature greens, such as dandelion and mustard, will be unpleasantly bitter even if they are not especially tough. Mature greens should be blanched by steaming or boiling briefly in water before cooking them.

Simple Spring Salad with Maple Glazed Nuts

Look for locally grown arugula and watercress for a peppery punch. The sweetness of the maple-glazed pecans contrasts nicely with the bitterness of some greens and the sharpness of Asiago cheese. Asiago is a good grating cheese, so buy a piece and use a cheese shaver for attractive pieces. Makes four servings.

INGREDIENTS:
- 6 cups (1.5 L) mixed lettuce greens
- 3/4 cup (175 ml) pecan halves
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) maple syrup

Dressing:
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) red wine vinegar
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt
- Pinch pepper
- 1 oz (30 g) Asiago cheese, shaved

METHOD:
Wash greens and spin dry. Wrap in clean tea towel in plastic bag, or store greens in salad spinner in refrigerator until needed.

Place pecans in large dry skillet over medium heat. Stir a few minutes until fragrant. Stir maple syrup into nuts and cook a few minutes or until well coated and syrup is absorbed into nuts. Transfer to parchment-lined plate to cool. Before serving, break any pecans apart that stick together.

For dressing, whisk together vinegar, oil, salt and pepper, cover and refrigerate until serving.

To serve, re-whisk and toss greens with dressing. Arrange on plates and top each salad with pecans and shaved cheese.

TIPS:
- Dark green cruciferous vegetables, such as arugula, kale, collards, kohlrabi, mustard greens and watercress are members of the Brassica family and are packed with folate, vitamins E and C and minerals such as potassium, calcium and iron.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

Fresh and light

LiquidAssets
Peter Rockwell
metronews.ca/liquidassets

Join the club

Looking for a challenge this summer? (And I'm not talking about keeping up with the yard work.) How does grape collecting sound?

Thanks to Steve De Long all you have to do is download his mega list of varietals, check off at least 100 that you've tasted and you can become a member of The Wine Century Club.

Only 590 people (including yours truly) have had the juice of the required number of grapes (and you can count blends) in their mouths. De Long says that he only hears from about three per cent of all the eager imbibers who get his list. He sends those that make the grade a snazzy certificate for their efforts.

If you're looking to get started, try these two back deck whites perfect for warm weather sipping and made with some unique pieces of fruit. **Ironstone Vineyard's 2006 Obsession ($14.95 - $16.99)** is a Californian that gets its soft, tropical personality from the Symphony grape.

Sogrape's Gazela Vino Verde ($8.95 - $10.92) from Portugal is a non-vintage blend of Loureiro, Pedernã, Trajadura and Azal that's light in alcohol (only nine per cent) with a zingy, lean, green, lime-infused flavour.

Join the club at winecentury.com.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.

Local Savour

South St. Burger
45 Wicksteed Ave.
416-421-8559
southstburger.com
Hamburger, $5.06

Serves a good, honest burger with a decent selection of toppings and a minimum of grease. Poutine, onion rings, fries and milkshakes are also on the menu, along with a small burger for kids and just-peckish adults. The midtown location at Laird and Wicksteed next to a sprawling industrial landscape of old factories and weed-choked fields hardly qualifies as a prime tourist draw, but the big-box mall setting, with its faux art deco stylings, is not without appeal for aficionados of offbeat urban sites.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A friend in need

Food Banks Canada is reporting an approximately 20 per cent increase in the number of Canadians turning to food banks each month and, as a result, food banks across the country are facing unprecedented challenges providing essential food to those in need. Visit foodbankscanada.ca. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Just a **bite**

Great ways to start a fig conversation

People have been eating figs since 5,000 BC — and for good reason.

Figs were eaten by Greek and Roman athletes to increase their stamina and improve their performance, have the highest overall mineral content of all common fruits, and provide the same amount of calcium as milk.

Here are some more fun facts on figs:

- Figs are an excellent source of dietary fibre, providing five grams of fibre per serving.
- As a token of honour, figs were used as a training food by the early Olympic athletes, and figs were also presented as laurels to the winners as the first Olympic "medal."
- Figs are actually an inverted flower.
- A half-cup of figs has the same amount of calcium as a half-cup of milk.
- The fig tree is the symbol of abundance, fertility, and sweetness.
- Figs were actually the fruit in the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve, not apples.
- In ancient Greece black figs for men and white figs for women were worn around the neck during a ceremony of purification.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ricardo every single night

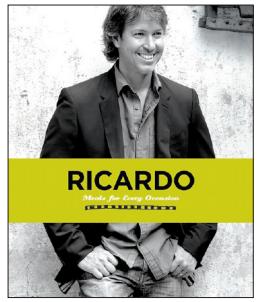
Celebrity chef offers recipe solutions for all your entertaining needs

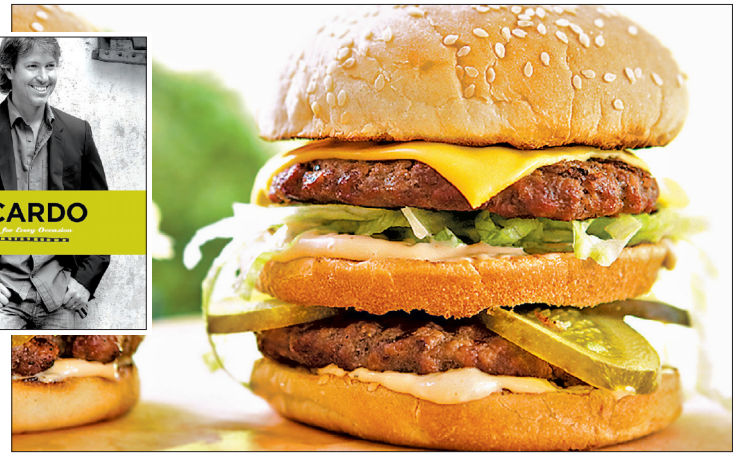
Often called "Quebec's answer to Jamie Oliver," Ricardo has made quite an impact on Canadian audiences with his hit show Ricardo & Friends on Food Network Canada and his book Weekend Cooking.

In his new book, Ricardo: Meals for Every Occasion, he shares his failproof meal plans and mouthwatering yet simple recipes, which have helped get him out of many entertaining-related binds.

Whether you're having the boss over for dinner, hosting the guys on poker night, or making the perfect brunch for overnight guests, Ricardo helps takes the intimidation factor out of entertaining. By grouping the recipes into sections according to the occasion, Ricardo makes sure you have a a choice of surefire ways to suit any entertaining need.

Metro nabbed this satisfying burger from Ricardo: Meals for Every Occasion (Whitecap, 2009) to sink your teeth into. Great for the barbecue.





These American-Style Double Cheeseburgers are from Ricardo: Meals for Every Occasion.

American-Style Double Cheeseburgers

INGREDIENTS:

Sauce:

- 3/4 cup (180 ml) mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) finely chopped onion
- 1 Tbsp (15 ml) store-bought French salad dressing (orange coloured)
- 1 Tbsp (15 ml) sweet relish
- 1 Tbsp (15 ml) finely chopped dill pickle
- 1 tsp (5 ml) brown sugar
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ketchup
- 1 tsp (5 ml) white vinegar
- Salt and pepper

Cheeseburgers:

- 4 hamburger buns
- 1 1/2 lb (675 g) lean ground beef
- 4 slices orange processed cheese
- Sliced sandwich pickles
- Chopped iceberg lettuce

METHOD:

Sauce:
In a bowl, combine all the ingredients. Season with salt and pepper. Refrigerate.

Cheeseburgers:
Preheat the barbecue, setting the burners to high.

Using a bread knife, slice the top halves of the hamburger buns in half. Set aside.

Shape the meat into 8 large but very thin patties. Tip: Place the patties between sheets of plastic wrap and flatten by sliding your hand over the top layer.

Grill the patties until well-done, about 3 minutes per side. Season with salt and pepper. Place the cheese slices on 4 of the patties for the last minute of cooking. Toast the buns.

Assembly:
Spread sauce on the bun bottoms. Lay 1 plain patty on each bun bottom. Garnish with pickle slices. Cover with the bun middles. Spread with sauce and garnish with lettuce. Top with the remaining patties and the bun tops.

Hot burger spots around town

It seems there are gourmet hamburger shops popping up everywhere in Toronto, and summer is the perfect time to check them out.

A team of Canadian Press carnivores went hunting for some choice chuck. Here's what they discovered.

Burger Shoppe Quality Meats (BQM):

For a taste of Toronto's newest hipster 'hood along with some naturally raised beef, wander down the gentrified stretch of Ossington Avenue just off the seedier portion of Queen Street West. The Burger Shoppe offers familiar comfort food at higher prices than most counterparts, but this eco-friendly eatery could be considered more gastro-pub than fast-food joint.

Craft Burger:

If you've got a hamburger hankering after shopping along Bloor Street West or in Yorkville, it's hard to beat this sleek resto at 830 Yonge St. Adventurous eaters can opt for the "Craft Blue," a delightful mix of gorgonzola, avocado and rosemary garlic mayo.

Dangerous Dan's:

For those who like a grill with some grit, drop by Queen Street East and Broadview and consider Dangerous Dan's as an artery-clogging alternative to the city's chi-chi crop of new burger joints. For those who want a retro option, try the Elvis — a tastier-than-it-sounds eight-ounce (225-gram) burger topped with bacon, peanut butter and fried banana.

Magoo's Gourmet Hamburgers and Ice Cream:

The burgers here at 4242 Dundas St. W., made on the premises of 100 per cent lean ground beef, are sized to fit. A small- to medium-sized appetite might wish to order the Magoo-goo for $3.95 on a substantial sesame seed bun, adding toppings such as mushrooms, bacon or cheese. Heartier appetites might sink into the gourmet burger, while veggie burgers, fries and salads are also on the menu.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

James McKinnon, owner of Dangerous Dan's Diner finishes preparing an eight ounce burger.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Bond on a stick
Del Monte Superfruit Smoothies has sculpted a limited edition popsicle in the shape of Daniel Craig's nude torso. The frozen treat is the result of a poll of women, the majority of whom wanted the image of Craig, emerging from the water in Casino Royale, immortalized. EW.COM

Entertainment

Ready for Much
Black Eyed Peas, Classified (left), and Rise Against are among the newest performers who will appear at the 2009 MuchMusic Video Awards, co-hosted by the Jonas Brothers, on June 21. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Phoenix delivers dance-rock gem

Phoenix

Album: Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix
Label: Glass Note
Rating: ●●●½

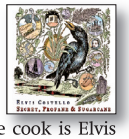
PHOENIX HAS DONE it. The breakdowns, rock-instruments-as-rhythm-machines and synthesizer vocals of the French band's past albums have meshed into a near-perfect expression of dance-rock. Singer Thomas Mars uses words like piano keys, seemingly chosen for cadence and rhythm over meaning. Stitched deep into a bed of warm, rolling percussion and analog bass, they mimic the arrangements of the band's French house pedigree. Influences from Daft Punk (and ex-bandmate) Thomas Bangalter and Philippe Zdar from Cassius (who produced the album) also pop up in the funky bassline in Fences and the sparkling builds of Love Like a Sunset, Parts I and II.

Rob McMahon/for Metro Canada

French band Phoenix has created a near-perfect expression of dance-rock on its latest album.

Elvis Costello

Album: Secret, Profane & Sugarcane
Label: Hear/Universal
Rating: ●●●



RECORDING AN ALBUM in three days should be a recipe for disaster, but not when the cook is Elvis Costello. Here, the legendary guitarist teams up with T Bone Burnett to create a barn-burning acoustic set of Americana complete with copious amounts of slide guitar and banjo. While there are some great tunes — Sulpher to Sugarcane is one — with tracks from his Hans Christian Anderson opera, a Bing Crosby cover and a new version of Complicated Shadows, it's a bit all over the place.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Vanessa Williams

Album: The Real Thing
Label: Concord/Universal
Rating: ●●●

AMERICA'S FAVOURITE BEAUTY queen gracefully enters middle age by caressing the candlelight-and-wine set. Vanessa Williams' fans fall into three categories — the ones who remember the Penthouse pictures and her fall from from grace 25 years ago as the first black Miss America, the ones who remember her stunning comeback as an urban R&B singer and the ones who now know her from TV's Ugly Betty. This album is for the oldsters who still keep her centrefold tucked under their mattress. It's filled with sultry renditions of '60s and '70s jazz, pop and Latin standards. Backed by lush orchestration, Williams' voice handles the material surprisingly well.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Dave Matthews Band

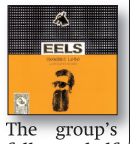
Album: Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King
Label: RCA/Sony
Rating: ●●●●

THE GROOGRUZ KING is the nickname of Dave Matthews Band sax virtuoso LeRoi Moore who died last year in a tragic ATV accident on his Virginia farm. Luckily, Moore's presence has strongly preserved throughout this dynamic album that will serve to keep the Dave Matthews Band at the forefront of innovative American rock for years to come. It's steeped in the Mardi Gras tradition of New Orleans while providing a showcase for DMB's mutiple instrumental talents. There is an urgency to the vocals of Matthews and the playing of Stefan Lessard (bass), Carter Beauford (drums) and Boyd Tinsley (violin) that may have been lacking on previous DMB studio efforts.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Eels

Album: Hombre Lobo: 12 Songs of Desire
Label: Vagrant/Universal
Rating: ●●●



THE EELS didn't disappear after Novocain for The Soul, an MTV hit 13 years ago. The group's ninth record follows a half wolf, half man character first introduced to fans on 2001's Dog Face Boy. Now, the boy is an adult, dealing with loneliness, love and heartache — all emotive stuff wrapped in the band's swaggering alt-rock sheen. The disc is full of both loud, infectious tunes and soft, introspective numbers.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Justin Hines

Album: Chasing Silver
Label: Orange/Universal
Rating: ●●●½

JUSTIN HINES IS the little guy from Newmarket, Ont., with the big voice now being featured on the Ontario tourism commercials. Chasing Silver is a collection of wonderfully crafted folk songs that reach back into the early '70s era of the singer-songwriter. The 11 original tracks here are filled with musical references to James Taylor, Jim Croce and Carole King. There are times on this album, especially on tracks like While You Are Out There, when Hines' voice is eerily reminiscent of Cat Stevens, circa Tea For The Tillerman. Hines' outstanding cover of Peter Gabriel's Salisbury Hill will draw a lot of new fans to his music.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

MusicReviews

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Yes, I 'm a Fox

Megan Fox doesn't mind that she's viewed as a sex symbol. "I think it's wonderful. I didn't decide I'm gonna be an actress cause I wanna be respected for how I play chess," she tells Entertainment Tonight. **USMAGAZINE.COM**

Vardalos rebounds in Ruins

Nia Vardalos couldn't resist adding a shout-out to her fellow Canadians in her new movie, My Life in Ruins.

"Once a Canadian, always a Canadian," quipped the Winnipeg-born writer-actress, whose 2002 debut My Big Fat Greek Wedding came out of nowhere to earn more than $241 million US.

In the romcom My Life in Ruins, Vardalos plays a Greek-American college prof who retreats to Athens to work as a tour guide to find her lost kefi — Greek for mojo.

Over the phone from her Los Angeles home, Vardalos says one exchange she penned for the movie was inspired by a scenario she faced a lot when she first moved to California: Americans consider Canada to be the 51st state, something that's guaranteed to rile any True North resident.

Ever a polite Canuck, the 46-year-old refused to take a screenwriting credit on My Life in Ruins.

"I asked permission from the writer (The Simpsons Movie's Mike Reiss) to add the Canadian stuff, but I didn't want a credit. That's gross," says Vardalos, sounding appalled at the mere suggestion.

Such is the down-to-earth style that made moviegoers fall for Vardalos's autobiographical tale of her wedding to a non-Greek. (She and spouse Ian Gomez wed in 1993.)

Vardalos was on top of the world when Greek Wedding hit it big, the culmination of a Hollywood fairy tale that began with actor-spouses Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson investing in the project, which was based on a stage show written by Vardalos. Nominations for an Oscar and a Golden Globe followed.

(Hanks and Wilson are back on board for My Life in Ruins. Wilson also has a small role.)

Things then got bumpy for Vardalos. A 2003 TV show based on the movie lasted only a handful of episodes. Connie and Carla, a Vardalos penned Some Like It Hot-style gals-on-the-run flick, co-starring Toni Collette, did mediocre box office and got lukewarm reviews.

Vardalos all but disappeared. "I lost my mojo for a while, yeah," she says. "I was very clear. I chose to step back and grieve a personal situation of being at the end of a 10-year fertility battle."

TERESA ISASI

Nia Vardalos in a scene from My Life in Ruins.

My Life in Ruins hits theatres tomorrow

Vardalos talks quickly and pointedly; she's obviously made the speech to reporters before. The message comes through clearly: she'll offer a bit of information, nothing more. "It was happening to me at 32. All during the success of My Big Fat Greek Wedding, it was this."

She politely refuses to say if she and Gomez tried in vitro fertilization or fertility drugs. Last year they did start a family, when the couple adopted a three-year-old daughter. Although Vardalos won't allow the child to be photographed or her name made public, "I do understand all this happened to me so that I could use my big mouth to talk about foster adoption," she quips. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES**

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Diaz eyes wedding bouquets
Cameron Diaz may not have any interest in getting married, but she sure does love catching bouquets at weddings. "I'm a commitment-phobe," she tells OK! Magazine. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Getting to know Tony

Neil Patrick Harris prepares for role as host of awards ceremony

Ask Neil Patrick Harris how he sees his job as host of the 2009 Tony Awards, and the star of TV's How I Met Your Mother says, judiciously, "ringmaster at the circus — I want to be strong enough to earn your trust but be able to allow all the specialty acts to shine."

And this year's ceremony, televised live Sunday by CBS (8-11 p.m. EDT) from Radio City Music Hall, is packed with enough entertainment to keep its host very busy indeed.

Star performances will be abundant: from Elton John and the cast of Billy Elliot, to Dolly Parton and the folks from 9 to 5. Eclectic, too: from Liza Minnelli to the 1980s hair-metal band Poison, celebrating with the cast of Rock of Ages. Plus, of course, scenes from the nominated best musicals and best musical revivals.

And we haven't even gotten to the list of celebrity presenters that will include such names as Nicole Kidman, Anne Hathaway, David Hyde Pierce, Jessica Lange, Frank Langella and Kevin Spacey. When will there be time for thank-you speeches?

"I certainly never thought this would be in the cards," Harris says of his Sunday gig. "All of a sudden it came into my world and I was ecstatic. It's the biggest night on Broadway and to be able to helm the ship is amazing. I get an all-access pass. It will be the best seat in the house."

Harris comes to the Tony job with some experience. He had good notices hosting the 2009 TV Land Awards in April and he's done similar work for the Writers Guild, various magic organizations (Harris is a magic buff) and the Ovation Awards, Los Angeles' theatre prizes.

BT McNicholl, who put Harris into the Roundabout Theatre Company revival of Cabaret in 2003, says Harris' interest in magic will help the actor with his Tony duties.

"Neil is a first-rate magician," says McNicholl, associate director of Cabaret.

"And I think the timing and concentration that are required of people who successfully practice sleight of hand has served him well in the theatre. He knows how to keep an audience's attention and focus it in all the right ways. Plus Neil has a very warm and appealing presence, not to mention a sense of comic timing that goes back to the greats of yesteryear. It's in his bones."

GETTY IMAGES

Neil Patrick Harris hosts the Tony Awards on CBS Sunday.

For those who only know the 35-year-old Harris as the womanizing Barney Stinson on his current CBS sitcom, or from his breakout TV role as Doogie Howser, M.D. the actor's theatre career may come as a surprise.

"I suppose the Tonys will show them that I am knowledgeable in the theatre." Harris says. "But I am not out to show anyone that I am theatre-worthy. Quite frankly, I am happy if the people who are watching in middle America think that I am the guy from How I Met Your Mother. But what I am passionate about, in person, is theatre."

"It's the biggest night on Broadway and to be able to helm the ship is amazing. I get an all-access pass. It will be the best seat in the house."
Neil Patrick Harris

The actor made his Broadway debut in 2002 when director Daniel Sullivan put a replacement cast into the Pulitzer Prize-winning Proof, a new ensemble that not only included Harris, but Anne Heche, Len Cariou and Kate Jennings Grant. From there, Harris went into Cabaret, as its androgynous, flamboyant master of ceremonies.

"That's the beauty of theatre," he says. "From role to role, you really get to embody an entirely different world — Proof being super-cerebral and then getting to follow that up with a stint in what is almost like a Cirque du Soleil show."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Global shakeup puts Heroes on the move

Global's fall TV lineup will include the hotly anticipated musical-comedy Glee, Family Guy spin-off The Cleveland Show and new programs featuring Julianna Margulies and rapper LL Cool J.

The broadcaster announced its upcoming schedule at a breakfast presentation yesterday that made no mention of its five-station E! network, which owner Canwest Global Communications Corp. is trying to unload as it grapples with a roughly $4-billion debt.

One of Global's biggest gambles is a plan to move its super-power serial Heroes to Sunday night from Monday, while shifting the family drama Brothers and Sisters to Monday from Sunday.

Canwest exec Barbara Williams said the switch would give each show a greater opportunity to grow, noting that come fall, Brothers & Sisters will be preceded by House and Lie To Me.

Meanwhile, Heroes will follow an evening of animated shows including The Simpsons and Family Guy, series that are similarly geared toward a young, male demographic.

"Heroes has been a staple for us on Mondays for a long time but honestly, coming out of the Monday night lineup in a post-position was not going to give it its best strength possible," Williams said of the once-mighty NBC series, which has sagged in ratings.

"We were fighting too many issues there."

The switch means that Heroes fans in Canada will catch the series a day earlier than viewers in the United States, while Brothers & Sisters fans will see it a day later. New shows coming to Global include an updated version of the '90s soap Melrose Place, featuring original cast members Laura Leighton and Thomas Calabro alongside tabloid staple Ashlee Simpson-Wentz and Canadian Jessica Lucas.

Margulies, of ER fame, will appear in The Good Wife, about a politician's wife trying to weather a public scandal while LL Cool J teams up with Chris O'Donnell in NCIS: Los Angeles. Returning shows include The Office, 90210, Dollhouse and Survivor.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Yale accused of acquiring stolen art

ART A descendant of the owner of a famous Vincent Van Gogh painting says Yale University should have known the painting was stolen when it acquired it, but instead "engaged in a policy of wilful ignorance" that amounted to "art laundering."

The Ivy League university sued in March to assert its ownership rights over The Night Cafe.

Pierre Konowaloff of France is the purported great-grandson of industrialist and aristocrat Ivan Morozov, who bought the painting in 1908. Russia nationalized Morozov's property during the Communist revolution.

Cohen sued over Bruno stunt

MOVIES A woman is suing NBC Universal and comedian Sacha Baron Cohen, claiming a bit for Cohen's upcoming film, Bruno, left her disabled.

Richelle Olson claims she was severely injured after a struggle with Cohen during a charity bingo tournament. She claims Cohen used vulgar language during the game, then struggled with her when she tried to reclaim the microphone.

The $25,000 US lawsuit says Olson fell after retreating to a side room and hitting her head on the concrete floor.

Mets stadium to host McCartney

MUSIC The New York Mets are inviting an old friend to play at their new stadium.

But not just any old friend — Sir Paul McCartney. The music legend will perform the first concerts at Citi Field on July 17 and 18.

In a statement, McCartney says he's excited to be the first to play the stadium, and he's "really looking forward to a buzzing show."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sheen gets OBE

Michael Sheen met the real British monarch when he was honoured with an Order of the British Empire during a ceremony at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday. The 40-year-old portrayed former British Prime Minister Tony Blair in The Queen. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Ripa's dad gets county clerk job

CELEB FAMILY Daytime talk show host Kelly Ripa was scheduled to be present yesterday when her father was sworn in as Camden County clerk by New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine.

Democrat Joe Ripa is filling the job until the November election. Ripa says he'll run in the fall for a full five-year term. He's replacing James Beach, who's now a state senator.

Ripa is a former bus driver and union administrator who became a Camden County freeholder in 2004.

His famous daughter maintains a high-profile presence in southern New Jersey, where she has helped raise money for her father's campaigns.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The O'Reilly question

TV show host in hot water over doctor's killing

The shooting death of abortion provider George Tiller has put Fox News Channel's Bill O'Reilly in the media spotlight because of stories he did about the Kansas doctor over the past few years.

Liberal commentators have questioned whether O'Reilly's words, including calling the doctor "Tiller the baby killer," were too incendiary. O'Reilly condemned Tiller's killing and said his opponents are exploiting the murder to attack Fox and stifle criticism of people like Tiller.

Tiller was gunned down Sunday while at church services in Wichita. He had operated a clinic that was

GETTY IMAGES

Bill O'Reilly

one of three in the nation to perform abortions after the 21st week of pregnancy, when the fetus is considered viable, and had survived a previous shooting.

O'Reilly said on his first show after the killing that "quick-thinking Americans" should condemn it.

"Anarchy and vigilantism will assure the collapse of any society," he said. "Once the rule of law breaks down a country is finished."

Before Tiller's death, O'Reilly had talked about him on his top-rated The O'Reilly Factor some 29 times since February 2005, according to Salon magazine Monday.

Twice he sent producers to Kansas to report on the story. In June 2007, Fox's Porter Barry confronted Tiller in the street and asked, "they call you Tiller the baby killer. Is that appropriate?'"

"O'Reilly didn't tell anyone to do anything violent, but he did put (Dr. George) Tiller in the public eye..."
Salon's Gabriel Winant

Salon's Gabriel Winant wrote that "O'Reilly didn't tell anyone to do anything violent, but he did put Tiller in the public eye, and help make him the focus of a movement with a history of violence against exactly these kinds of targets."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bad luck brewing for Dance champs?

TROPHIES If one broken mirror means seven years of bad luck, Dancing With the Stars champs Shawn Johnson and Mark Ballas could be facing centuries of misfortune. When the dancing partners opened their respective mirrorball trophies after a cross-country trip, each was broken.

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Daniel Baldwin replacing celeb couple

Daniel Baldwin is jetting to the jungles of Costa Rica to replace newlyweds Heidi and Spencer Pratt on I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here! METRO NEWS SERVICES

Speidi gone for real?

Newlyweds claim they are leaving celebrity show, again

Heidi and Spencer Pratt said they're bailing, and they like really, really mean it this time.

At least twice already, they had quit and un-quit I'm a Celebrity ... Get Me Out of Here! But the bratty newlyweds, who star on MTV's The Hills, were seen taking what's presumably their final leave on the Tuesday edition of the NBC competition series — only its second night.

I'm a Celebrity airs from the Costa Rican jungle, with semi-famous people competing for food, supplies, money for their chosen charities — and TV screen-time.

But as Spencer explained, "Super-celebrities don't belong in the jungle. They belong in Hollywood with the paparazzi."

"We're gonna miss you guys," Heidi told the not-so-super-celebrities they were ditching. "But call us when you get back to L.A."

Actor Lou Diamond Phillips, TV personality Janice Dickinson and former Illinois first lady Patti Blagojevich are among the nine remaining contestants.

So is Stephen Baldwin, actor and reality-show veteran, who described himself as a nondenominational born-again Christian. Before the Pratts bolted, Baldwin offered to baptize Spencer, who jumped at the chance since his wife is a professed Christian.

And how! "My goal is to be a true disciple of Jesus, a Mother Teresa helping the poor and the hungry," she said, straight-faced.

"Now you're looking at a new Spencer Pratt," Heidi's born-again hubby told America after the ceremony in a picturesque stream.

Soon after that, the couple declared they had had enough, and were getting out of there.

At the end of the hour, viewers were invited to cast their votes to eliminate one of the women contenders (with Blagojevich granted immunity for now). The results were promised for Thursday's show.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GETTY IMAGES

Bratty newlyweds Heidi and Spencer Pratt once again said that they are quitting I'm a Celebrity ... Get Me Out of Here!

"Super-celebrities don't belong in the jungle. They belong in Hollywood with the paparazzi."
Spencer Pratt

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TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
6/4/09	265	353	2 TVO	Megastructures		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		After the Deluge (Part 2 of 4)		Masterworks (N)		Agenda-Paikin
primetime	211	331	3 GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Bones (HDTV PA)		The Office	The Office	Harper's Island "Gurgle"		News
	215	343	4 OMN1	2Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6 CBC	22 Minutes	Laughs	NHL Hockey: Stanley Cup Final Game 4 -- Red Wings at Penguins					CBC News: The National	
	214	344	7 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Jimmy Kimmel	Friends	30 Rock	30 Rock	Privileged (HDTV)		News (N)
	212	313	8 CTV	etalk	Hollywood	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		So You Think You Can Dance		The Listener (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	218	345	11 E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Jon & Kate	10 Items-Less	The E! True Hollywood Story		The Beast "Pilot" (N)		News (N)
	137	763	13 TFO	Panorama été	Tshinanu	Mon Riel à moi		*Le Beau Serge* ★★★ (1958, Drame)			Folie-aventure	Volt
	-	-	14 -	Raymond	Raymond	News (N)		News (N)		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15 SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	Smallville "Identity"		Supernatural (HDTV)		To Serve and Protect		Becker
	-	387	16 CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Big Bang Th	Old Christine	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(10:01) The Mentalist		News (N)
	-	385	17 NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out.		The Listener (N)		The Listener (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	-	386	18 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Jimmy Kimmel	NBA Count	NBA Basketball Finals Game 1 -- Orlando Magic at Los Angeles Lakers.				
	219	346	20 ACH-B	The Road to Avonlea		Greek Prohibition party.		Wife Swap		Private Practice		News (N)
	-	-	28 FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Bones (HDTV PA)		So You Think You Can Dance		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61 PBS	News-Lehrer	My Hero	The Big Band Years				Pilates for All Bodies		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330 WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Smallville "Identity"		Supernatural (HDTV)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331 SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332 TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Friends	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville
news	502	390	26 NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79 CNB	Kudlow Report		CNBC Reports (HDTV)		How I Made My Millions		Cruise Inc: Big Money		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22 net	MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Atlanta Braves. (HDTV) From Turner Field in Atlanta. (Live)						Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
	400	400	30 TSN	That's Hockey	Interruption	NBA Pregame	NBA Count	NBA Basketball Finals Game 1 -- Orlando Magic at Los Angeles Lakers.				
	411	457	58 OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures "Cuba"		Mantracker		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures
	417	406	81 SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Wrecked (N)	Wrecked (N)	Pimp My Ride
family	551	542	25 YTV	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	In Real Life "Pilots"		Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45 TEL	Jimmy Two	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	*Ghost World* ★★★ (2001, Comedy-Drama) Thora Birch.			
	556	540	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27 W	How Clean	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Divine Design	Love It-List It	House
	570	580	29 MM	One Tree Hill		Degrassi: TNG	Instant Star	Paris Hilton's My New BFF		Video on Trial	Born to Be	One Tree Hill
	615	520	31 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		Crime 360 (HDTV) (N)		Manhunters
	700	800	35 TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	No Più de Uno				Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
	571	581	36 MMM	I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out.		I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out.		The Daily Fix		Entourage	I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out.	
	575	583	38 CMT	Shaye: This Is It		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Tuckerville
	616	521	39 SHO	The Outer Limits		Love-Death	Love-Death	*Anna's Storm* (2007, Action) Sheree Wilson.				House
	620	523	40 BVO	Storytellers	Snapshot	Bathroom Divas-Opera Star		*The Saddest Music in the World* (2003, Musical) (DVS)				Law & Order
	601	562	41 SLC	Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	X-Weighted "Angela J."		X-Weighted "Jen"		X-Weighted "Tammy"		ET Canada
	522	506	43 HIS	NCIS "Judgment Day"		Ancient Discoveries		Metropolis		NCIS "Judgment Day"		Aircraft Carrier
	625	548	44 COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Now	Extreme Wind	Daily Show
	600	564	46 H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes in New Orleans		Disaster DIY	Big Amazing	House Hunters	House Hunters	HolmesOrleans
	294	529	47 TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends	Friends	*The Hand That Rocks the Cradle* (1992, Suspense)				Family Guy
	576	582	49 BET	106 & Park	*Lean on Me* ★★ (1989, Docudrama) Morgan Freeman, Robert Guillaume.					Welcome to	College Hill	*Color Purple*
	627	528	50 SPC	The Listener (N) (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		*Men in Black II* ★★ (2002, Comedy) Tommy Lee Jones.				Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52 MTV	Room Raiders	After	MTV News	Cribs	Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		Teen Cribs
	618	524	54 TROP	Traders		Inside Hollywood (N)		Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	603	561	56 FOOD	Chef at Home	Crash-Kitchen	Restaurant Makeover		Jamie's-Food		Ace of Cakes	Ace of Cakes	Boys Weekend
	261	394	60 V	Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God	'Allo, 'Allo!	China's Leap of Faith		China's Leap of Faith		Blue Buddha
	621	527	63 STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	etalk	Paris Hilton's My New BFF		Tonight Show-Conan O'Brien		TMZ
	553	546	65 TRE	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Zigby	Max & Ruby
	115	711	101 TVA	Dépenses xtr	Marché	Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)		Destination Nor'Ouest (SC)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Terreur-mer*
	126	730	102 RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249 VIVA	Judging Amy		Most Haunted		The Closer		Passion	Homicide File	Psychic Inv.
	300	601	301 M1	*Georgia Rule* ★ (2007, Drama) Jane Fonda.				*Just Buried* (2007, Comedy-Drama)			(10:45) *Factory Girl*	
	305	612	306 PIX	(6:30) *A Lapse of Memory*		*Sunset in El Dorado* ★★		*The Great White Hope* (1970, Drama)			(10:45) *Murder by Decree*	

critics'corner

Georgia Rule

Oscar nominee Felicity Huffman and two-time winner Jane Fonda team up. Huffman plays a mom who sends her bratty teenage daughter (Lindsay Lohan) to stay with her tough-as-nails grandma (Fonda) in a tiny Idaho town. The culture clash does deliver plenty of laughs, but the revelation of the girl's abuse by her stepfather ruins the mood like a stink bomb in a flower garden. 7 PM on M1

The Saddest Music in the World

Isabella Rossellini stars in this offbeat 2003 musical comedy as a beer baroness in 1930s Winnipeg. She offers $25,000 to whoever can produce the world's most melancholy melody, drawing contenders from all over the globe, including a washed-up Broadway producer (Mark McKinney, "Kids in the Hall") and his brother (Ross McMillan), who's posing as a Serbian cellist. Maria de Medeiros and David Fox also star. 9 PM on BVO

Celebrity Buzz

Kate plays A-Rod's Band Aid?

GIRLFRIEND NOT GROUPIE Kate Hudson and Alex Rodriguez were spotted getting cozy last month at a restaurant in New York City, and now a source confirms they are dating, people.com reports.

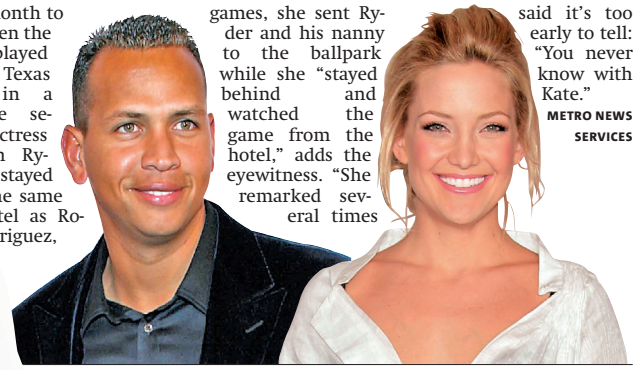
"It's somewhat serious," the source tells People in its upcoming issue. "He introduced her to a bunch of his friends."

Hudson followed Rodriguez on the road late last month to Dallas, when the Yankees played the Texas Rangers in a three-game series. The actress and son Ryder, 5, stayed at the same hotel as Rodriguez, and the couple "worked out together in the fitness centre," said an eyewitness.

For one of the games, she sent Ryder and his nanny to the ballpark while she "stayed behind and watched the game from the hotel," adds the eyewitness. "She remarked several times about what a big baseball fan she is."

Will their relationship last past the season? Another source said it's too early to tell: "You never know with Kate."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Anne's musical ambitions

SERENADE Anne Hathaway taught herself how to play the guitar — so she can serenade her boyfriend, actor Adam Shulman, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress learned to play The Beatles' Blackbird as a special birthday present for Shulman, who turned 28 in April.

Hathaway, 26, showed off her skills on Monday when she was challenged by Late Night host Jimmy Fallon to play something for the audience.

She said, "I know how to play two songs, Blackbird and this other song. I learned this off the Internet, literally learned from YouTube lessons."

"I am almost done with the first one! So I learned this song, I got the chords online but I'm not very good at it."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jennie's heart problems

HEALTH ISSUES Though afflicted with a heart ailment, Jennie Garth leads a normal life, the actress' husband, Twilight star Peter Facinelli, tells People.

"My wife has a leaky valve, which is pretty common. A lot of people have a leaky valve and they don't even know that they have it," Facinelli, 35, said. "But there's really nothing you can do for it, so you just leave it alone."

People.com says some reports misconstrued the story by claiming Garth, 37, suffers from heart disease. Facinelli said. "I don't know how that happened. I was sitting at home with her, and I saw a ticker tape on the news that said, 'Jennie Garth has heart disease.' I said, 'Honey, you didn't tell me.' But no, she's fine. She's fine."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

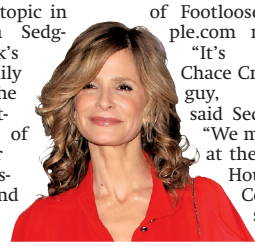
Chace has big shoes to fill: Kyra

SUPPORTIVE WIFE One hot topic in Kyra Sedgwick's family is the casting of her husband Kevin Bacon's role of Ren McCormack in the remake of Footloose, people.com reports.

"It's that Chace Crawford guy, right?" said Sedgwick. "We met him at the White House Correspondents Dinner.

Kevin and he had a chat. He's very sweet," but adds, "He has big shoes to fill!"

METRO NEWS SERVICES



FASHION AGAINST AIDS

Celebrity Buzz

Townies have no love for Kate

BAD FIRST IMPRESSIONS According to several fellow vacationers, Kate Gosselin didn't pay her eight kids much attention on their getaway to Bald Head Island, N.C., when the camera crew wasn't around — even though she pulled twin daughters Madelyn and Cara, 8, out of school for the trip, usmagazine.com reports. Between texting on her phone and allegedly hudding with her bodyguard Steve Neild (with whom husband Jon once feared she was having an affair), "she completely ignored her children the entire time," fellow vacationer Ann Michele Sweeney tells the newest issue of Us Weekly.

"When Kate sat on the edge of the pool, she told one of (the twins), 'If you splash me, you're dead meat,'" Sweeney said. "She was not joking at all."

Another vacationer, Kim Kirsch, tells Us that "Everyone that's encountered her says she's been rude, mean and hateful."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

It just hasn't been Eminem's week, has it?

CAN'T CATCH A BREAK It's been a rough week for Eminem. First he was the butt of Sacha Baron Cohen's joke at the MTV Movie Awards, then the next night he had thousands of dollars worth of items stolen from his L.A. hotel room, including a $60,000 US diamond necklace and his personal laptop, according to Gatecrasher.

So it's no wonder that at a charity event on Monday, the rapper wasn't exactly up to form. "People were pumped to see him, but he wasn't interacting with his fans. His performance was mechanical, without a lot of personality, and people were pretty disappointed," a source said.

METRO WORLD NEWS

GETTY IMAGES

LeAnn stalking Eddie?

THREE'S A CROWD Eddie Cibrian cut ties with his Lifetime movie costar LeAnn Rimes two months ago — after their steamy affair was exposed — but his wife, Brandi Glanville, tells the new issue of Us Weekly that Rimes can't let go of her obsession with him.

"LeAnn is a stalker," Glanville tells Us. "She refuses to leave us alone — it is shameful and scary. People are going to say it takes two to tango and I get that, but at some point LeAnn needs to stop asking him to dance."

Glanville, a model, alleges that Rimes (who was caught on video sucking Cibrian's finger during a date) intentionally tracked down her husband at a L.A. Lakers game on May 17 — two weeks after he changed his phone number to end her "constant texting and calling."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Melissa muses: Farrah's death or me on the cover?

SO INSENSITIVE Melissa Joan Hart, who graces this week's People magazine cover to show off her recent weight loss, allegedly wasn't so graceful when talking with friends backstage at a recent KTLA interview.

Hart was reportedly heard saying she hoped Farrah Fawcett wouldn't lose her battle to cancer that week, as it would surely bump Hart off the cover, according to Page Six.

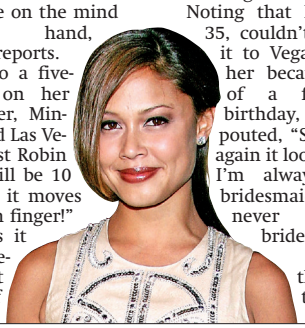
METRO WORLD NEWS

Vanessa drops wedding hint

NO SUBTLETY Memo to Nick Lachey: Vanessa Minnillo has marriage on the mind — and hand, people.com reports.

Pointing to a five-carat ring on her middle finger, Minnillo, 28, told Las Vegas columnist Robin Leach, "It will be 10 carats when it moves to the fourth finger!"

Leach says it was tongue-in-cheek, but in the brief interview, Minnillo mentions marriage three times.



Noting that Lachey, 35, couldn't make it to Vegas with her because he of a friend's birthday, she pouted, "So once again it looks as if I'm always the bridesmaid but never the bride."

Not that there's a problem, she quickly adds. "This romance is still going strong," she said. "There will always be rumblings and rumours that we've broken up, but in fact, it's very much still on — and it keeps on getting better."

So much so, she says, that "maybe this will be the one time I wind up the bride instead of the bridesmaid."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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TWN incorporates MSC data

Today Sunny 18°/ 8°
Friday Mainly sunny 22° / 10°
Saturday Partly cloudy 21°/ 11°

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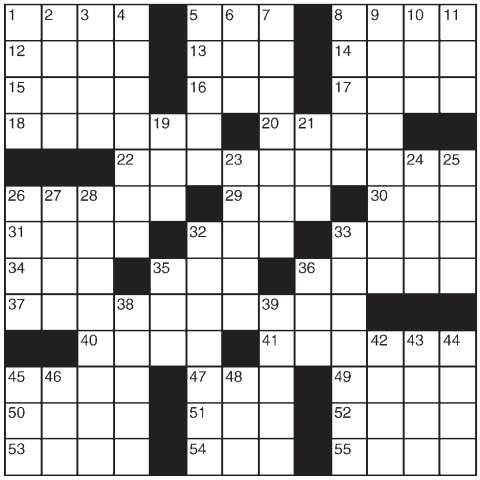


Crossword across

1 Read quickly
5 The whole shebang
8 Eastern potentate
12 Author Morrison
13 Halloween shout
14 Easter emblem
15 Winged
16 Early bird?
17 Gilligan's home
18 Bicycle-seat style
20 Restaurant chain acronym
22 "Dilbert" or "Garfield"
26 Face-to-face exams
29 Cistern
30 Altar affirmative
31 Jackknife, for one
32 Crony
33 Had more than a hunch
34 Female deer
35 Roscoe
36 Falafel holders
37 Meccas for shoppers
40 Break suddenly
41 Pearl's home
45 $50, in Monopoly
47 Sportage maker
49 Black-and-white treat
50 Lotion additive
51 Charged bit
52 Sensed
53 Proper bloke
54 Greek consonants
55 Admit, with "up"

Crossword down

1 Impale
2 Caffeine-rich nut
3 — instant
4 Sainthood prerequisite
5 Perpendicular to the keel
6 Journal
7 Sane
8 "Cats" inspirer
9 Typo
10 Ailing
11 Pumpernickel alternative
19 Ph. bk. data
21 DDE predecessor
23 Ex of The Donald
24 Notion
25 Hogan's Heroes group
26 Probabil-ity
27 Laugh-a-minute
28 Distaste
32 Cinderella's coach, really
33 Casual dismissal
35 Coll. transcript stat
36 Thickness
38 Cove
39 Bank transactions
42 Genealogy chart
43 Morays, e.g.
44 Deteriorates
45 Satchel
46 Hearty brew
48 Debtor's letters

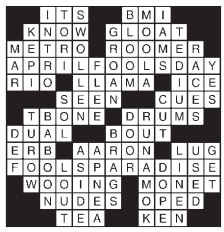
Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	4						3	
		6				9		
5	1		8	9	4		6	7
	7		2		9		4	
2								6
	9		7		5		8	
1	8		3	2	7		5	9
		9				1		
	6						7	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



7	8	6	4	5	3	2	1	9
5	2	3	6	9	1	8	4	7
1	9	4	2	7	8	5	6	3
9	3	7	8	4	5	6	2	1
6	5	1	7	3	2	4	9	8
2	4	8	1	6	9	7	3	5
8	7	9	3	2	6	1	5	4
3	1	2	5	8	4	9	7	6
4	6	5	9	1	7	3	8	2

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Tomato and Pecorino Clafoutis

INGREDIENTS:

2 tsp (10 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
1 lb (500 g) cherry tomatoes
4 tbsp (60 ml) snipped fresh chives
3/4 cup (175 ml) coarsely grated sharp pecorino cheese
6 extra large eggs
1/3 cup (75 ml) all-purpose flour
3 tbsp (45 ml) sour cream
1-1/4 cup (300 ml) 2% milk

METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 375 F (190 C). Lightly grease 4 shallow ovenproof dishes, each 5 to 6 in. (13 to 15 cm) in diameter. Divide cherry tomatoes among dishes, spreading them out. Sprinkle with chives and all but 1 tbsp (15 ml) of cheese.
2. Break eggs into bowl and whisk. Slowly whisk in flour until smooth. Add sour cream, then gradually whisk in milk for thin, smooth batter. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
3. Pour batter over tomatoes, dividing evenly between dishes. Sprinkle remaining cheese and an extra grinding of pepper over. Bake until set, puffed and lightly golden, 30 to 35 minutes.
4. Remove clafoutis from oven and leave to cool for few minutes before serving, because tomatoes are very hot inside.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Today you will be even more forceful and focused on your work than usual, but try to remember not everyone is as driven as you are to succeed.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
It pays to follow your hunches and today you won't hesitate to take advantage of what, to your mind, looks like the opportunity of a lifetime.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Don't let others order you around, not even if they have something that you want and you think the best way to get it is to be nice to them.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Your biggest failing at the moment seems to be your impatience, but today you have every reason to move things along as fast as you can.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
There's no point trying to persuade friends and colleagues that your way of looking at life is the best. Maybe it is, but that won't change them.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The important thing today is to make sure you spell out in plain and simple language what it is you expect of other people.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Be careful what you say and do today; a profitable relationship could end if you go beyond what others consider to be acceptable behaviour.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
If you are the kind of Scorpio who is impetuous then today you'll likely go way over the top. Chances are you'll get away with it.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Something shiny and new will catch your eye today and you'll want it no matter how much it might cost, but keep your cash in your pocket.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Bold decisions will come easily to you today, but you won't know for sure if they're good decisions until tomorrow, so make sure you can back out.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
By now it should be obvious you've taken a wrong turn. What are you going to do about it? Ignoring it is not an option.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You may be having second thoughts about a plan of some kind but there is too much momentum behind it to stop it now.

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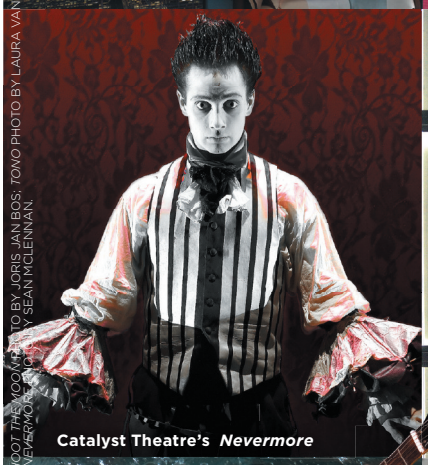
10 DAYS OF STANDING OVATIONS

Continuous City, The Builders Association



Catalyst Theatre's *Nevermore*

Robert Lepage's *Lipsynch*

Pierre Brault, *5 O'Clock Bells*

Tono, Red Sky Performance

Shoot the Moon, Nederlands Dans Theater

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: *CONTINUOUS CITY* PHOTO BY LEANNE LOCHTEFELD; *SHOOT THE MOON* PHOTO BY JORIS JAN BOS; *TONO* PHOTO BY LAURA VANAGAS; *5 O'CLOCK BELLS* PHOTO BY CHRISTINA RILEY; *LIPSYNCH* PHOTO BY ERICK LABBÉ; *NEVERMORE* PHOTO BY SEAN MCLENNAN.

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GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

"The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trade marks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp., and used under licence. ♦Last year's starting price is the lease/finance starting price as of December 2008 for a 2009 Accent L 3DR/2009 Elantra L/2009 Sonata GL/2009 Tucson L/2009 Santa Fe 2.7L GL. Prices for models shown: 2009 Accent GL Sport of $14,395/2009 Elantra GL Sport Package 5-speed of $17,895/2009 Sonata Limited of $27,495/2009 Tucson Limited of $27,495/2009 Santa Fe Limited of $32,445. Delivery and Destination charges of $1,495/$1,495/$1,595/$1,760/$1,760, registration, insurance, licence fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ‡Starting price for model shown: 2009 Elantra Touring GL with Sport Package 5-speed for 36/36/48/48/48/60 month terms. Financing example: 2009 Tucson L 5-speed for $17,895 at 0% per annum equals $41.56 per month for 48 months for a total obligation of $19,755. Cash price is $17,995. Example price includes Delivery & Destination. Example price excludes registration, insurance, licence fees and all applicable taxes. ♦♦50 litres available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. *Elantra Touring best-in-class interior room based on Auto Data comparison of 124 vehicles in the compact class (according to AIAMC). †Fuel consumption for 2009 Sonata GL automatic (HWY 6.2L/100km, 46 mpg; CITY 9.5L/100km, 30 mpg) is based on manufacturer testing. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. YecoENERGY Initiatives help Canadians use energy more efficiently, boost renewable energy supplies and develop cleaner energy technologies. ASee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.